



THE

Fisherman

— THE LONG ISLAND, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION —

September 13th—19th, 1984
Volume 19, Number 37

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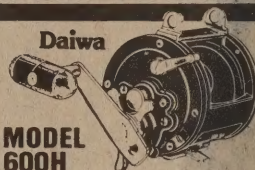


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THE Fisherman

— THE LONG ISLAND, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION —

Volume 19, Number 37

September 13th, 1984

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ABOUT THE COVER:

The third 900 pound class blue marlin returned to a Long Island port this season was landed aboard the Montauk charter boat, Hooker, on August 26, by T.J. Fulton. Taken 72 miles south of the Point, the huge billfish was fought for 2½ hours after striking a Boone Flat Head. It was the second such billfish for Captain Dave Kohlus, who put Skip Lowell on a 940 pound State Record back in 1981. Cover photo by Tom Edwards, courtesy of Montauk Marine Basin.

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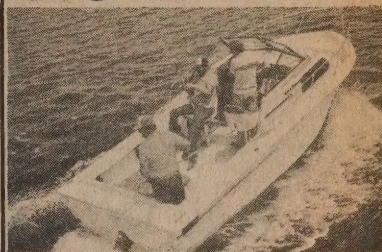
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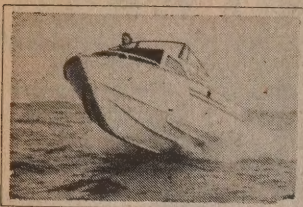
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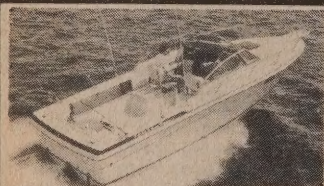
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FISHERMAN ENTRY SECOND RUNNER-UP IN DU PONT STREN TALL TALE CONTEST

The search for the best fishing stories in the nation, true or false, ended with the announcement of the winners of the DuPont Company's "Stren" Tall Tales Fish Story Contest. The three top winners were transported by DuPont to Atlanta for a news conference held in conjunction with the 1984 American Fishing Tackle Manufacturers Association Convention, held from July 26 to 30.

Robert H. Hood of Birmingham, Ala. the grand prize winner, and first and second runners-up, Shirley Harris of Warsaw, Mo. and Edward J. Haring of Brooklyn, N.Y., were on hand to receive their prizes from Dr. Frank Cogdell, manager of the DuPont "Stren" fishing line business, and fishing superstars Bill Dance and Roland Martin.

Hood, Harris and Haring were the three top winners of a contest held by DuPont to select the wildest fishing story in America. More than 200 newspapers, magazines, TV and radio stations nationwide held the contest and the best story from each outlet was sent to DuPont for national consideration. Bill Dance and Roland Martin judged the top 10 entries along with special celebrity judge Foster Brooks, best known for his role as the intoxicated man on the "Dean Martin Show," "Hollywood Squares" and numerous celebrity roasts.

"I knew I had a wild and funny story—and I put a lot of time into it, but I never thought I'd win the grand prize," said Hood, an attorney from Birmingham, Ala, who first won the local competition held by WBRC-TV, Channel 6, Birmingham's ABC affiliate. Hood's reward is a three-day, all expenses paid trip anywhere in the continental United States with either Bill Dance or Roland Martin, \$1,000 in spending money and an assortment of quality fishing tackle. One member of the WBRC-TV staff will accompany Mr. Hood on his trip as promised in the contest guidelines.

First runner-up Shirley Harris, whose entry was submitted by the Benton County Enterprise, won \$500. Second runner-up Edward J. Haring, entered by The Fisherman, Long Island/Metropolitan New York Edition, won \$250. All three top winners won the following items of first class fishing tackle: a Daiwa "Magforce" baitcasting rod and reel; a Humminbird Depth Sounder; a Minn-Kota Model 25W Trolling Motor; a VIP assortment of Mann's Baits; a Plano

Model 1162 Tackle Box; one case of "Fish Formula," and a five year supply of DuPont "Stren" line—2,400 yards per year.

Also announced at the DuPont Stren press conference at the AFTMA Annual Meeting were runners-up for places four through ten who also won fishing tackle and "Stren" line. Their names and entering outlets are: Stephen E. Proctor, the Logan Daily News, Logan, Ohio; Preston Bryant, WCOV Radio, Montgomery, Ala.; Al Davis, Lake Eufaula World, Eufaula, Okla.; Danny Buck, Sun Advocate, Price, Utah; Jane Grabowski, Sports-Week, Erie, Pa.; Joe Gullledge, WTBP Radio, Parsons, Tenn., and Donald Anast, Sr., Sunday Times-Record, Troy, N.Y.

C.G. AUXILIARY SAFETY REMINDER

United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 11-3 reminds the prudent skipper watches his wake. A big wake can easily capsize a small craft or damage boats or property along the shore. Boaters are responsible for damage, injury or death caused by their wake. Always cruise around docks, and anchorages and narrow channels at minimum speed.

VOLUNTARY PARTY BOAT LOGBOOK

The age-old conflict between recreational anglers and commercial fishermen has been marked by charge and counter charge, generating more heat than light. In an attempt to assess the dimensions of one such problem, a voluntary party boat logbook system was developed jointly between the Interstate Party Boat Association and the Northeast Fisheries Center, National Marine Fisheries Service. The program was implemented on a trial basis in Autumn, 1983 to evaluate the merits of the system for obtaining empirical data to document party boat/gill net interactions and adverse effects of gill net activities on party boat performance. This highly commendable pilot program was limited to six party boat vessels fishing out of Gloucester, Massachusetts, in order to minimize operational difficulties and to identify and correct technical problems before considering wider implementation.

Results from this pilot program were reported in Woods Hole Laboratory Reference Document No. 84-10 titled "Results of the Interstate Party Boat Association—Northeast Fisheries Center Voluntary Boat Logbook Program, Pilot Study, October 1983," by Frederick M. Serchuk and Thurston S. Burns.

Although the investigation encompassed only five weeks, September 25 through October 29, 1983, 12 incidents of party boat/gill net interactions were reported from a total of 42 completed party boat trip records.

Four incidents were reported in which fishing was not possible, or was difficult, due to the large numbers of gill nets in the area. Two incidents

involved entanglement of angling gear in ghost gill nets (abandoned or lost nets). The remaining six incidents involved sighting of gill nets in the area fished, but did not indicate an inability to fish the area.

The authors advised caution in assessing the degree of impact from the party boat/gill net interactions as the party boat captains avoided locations where gill net operations were likely, to avert loss of fishing time or gear. Also, the period covered by the trial program is usually associated with diminished gill netting activity because of weather and dogfish problems. Implementation of the voluntary party boat logbook system by a larger number of vessels would provide more representative information on gear conflicts. An expanded program would appear to be in the best interests of all parties concerned.

It was interesting to note that during the period of the pilot program, the six cooperating party boat vessels recorded 42 completed trips which resulted in the capture of 32,621 pounds of fish (primarily cod). The average trip involved 40 anglers fishing for five hours each with an average catch per angler hour of approximately 4 pounds. During this same period, a total of 517,018 pounds of fish were landed in Gloucester by 15 vessels using gill nets.

BERKLEY 1/4 MILLION DOLLAR "TEACH KIDS TO FISH" PROGRAM

Fishing education is the highlight in the "Berkley Teach Kids to Fish Program," initiated by Berkley and Company. This program will contribute 1/4 million dollars of fishing tackle to schools across the country to encourage them to initiate fishing education programs for America's kids.

Berkley president, Tom Bedell stated, "There's no American activity that provides a longer and more rewarding experience than fishing. The fun of catching fish is enjoyed by people of all ages. It's Berkley's belief that investing in youth programs will enrich the sport of fishing and help it grow. It's also our hope that school physical education programs will eventually include a chapter on fishing."

Berkley will cooperate with the American Fishing Tackle Manufacturers Association (AFTMA). AFTMA staff have developed a free fishing education guide. Participating schools will receive a fishing packet from Berkley and AFTMA, that will contain "how-to" information and basic tackle for classroom use.

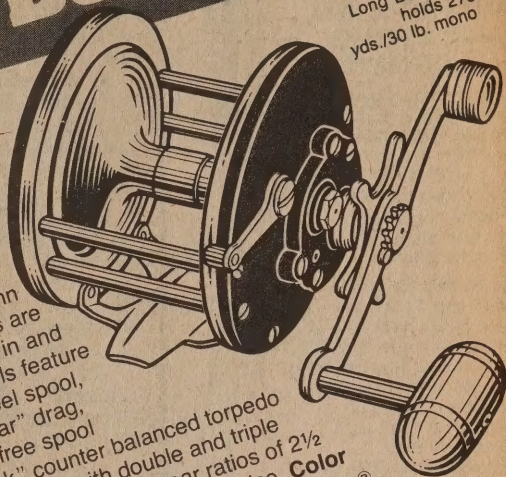
The issuance and shipment of tackle and materials will be done in cooperation with NAEIR. NAEIR is Northfield, Illinois non-profit organization which services the needs of more than 300 educational and charitable institutions spanning all 50 states. Participating schools will be notified of the program, which promises to offer fishing enjoyment to

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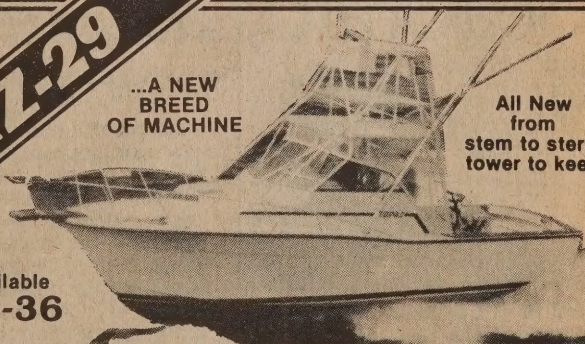
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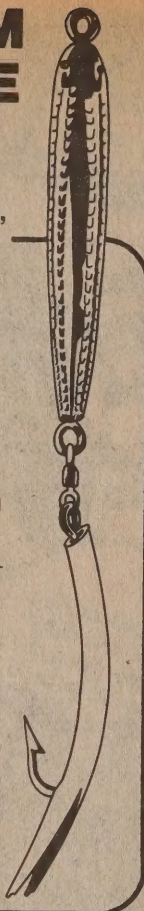
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SEWANHAKA POWER SQUADRON SCHEDULES FALL COURSES

A good fisherman should also be a good boatman. Now is the time to improve boating skills by taking the Safe Boating Course offered by Sewanhaka Power Squadron, a unit of the U.S. Power Squadrons. Tuition is free with a small charge for course materials. Sewanhaka is starting its 32nd year of teaching this and other boating courses as part of the Adult Education Program at the following schools: Time—7:45 PM.

Elmont Memorial H.S., Wednesday, Sept. 19; New Hyde Park H.S., Thursday, Sept. 20; Sewanhaka H.S., Thursday, Sept. 20; Oceanside H.S., Monday, Oct. 1; Garden City H.S., Wednesday, Oct. 3; and Herricks C.C., Wednesday, Oct. 3.

For additional information call Squadron Education Officer P/C Robert Nagy at (516) 536-0979 or (516) 561-8882.

BOATING MAINTENANCE GUIDE AVAILABLE FROM ATTWOOD

Deciding on a bilge pump, choosing navigation lights that meet regulations and selecting the right anchor are just a few of the subjects covered in the new boating maintenance guide now available from the Attwood Corporation.

"Look Before You Launch" will provide invaluable information on how to check your boat for safety and prepare it for launching.

To get a copy of "Look Before You Launch," write Attwood Corporation, Box A, Lowell, Mich. 49331.

SAFETY FUNNEL FROM COLTON

Colton Creators introduces another new safety product. The EZ Safety Funnel is designed to fill safely without spills: small fuel tanks on lawn mowers, chain saws, weed trimmers, kerosene heaters and outboard motors. It automatically shuts itself off when the tank is filled.

The EZ Safety Funnel's unique computer designed profile provides a sealed airtight path from the filling can to the tank. The divided wall tubin separates the incoming fuels and fluids from the returning air. This provides an automatic shut-off, assuring a safe, clean transfer of fluids. When pressed into place the specially designed ridges on each end of the Safety Funnel hold tightly, preventing spills or the possibility of damaged lawns, driveways, or a hazardous fire or explosion. It's unbreakable, one-piece, leakproof PVC construction guarantees years of satisfaction.

The Safety Funnel is a welcome addition to the emergency kits of cars, boats, campers and trailers. Its adaptable size fits most can or plastic bottle openings from 7/8" to 1 3/4" and makes them into handy filling containers—ideal for emergency out-of-fuel situations. Excellent for trans-

ferring fluids from bulk or industrial size containers, it keeps the economy "in the bottle"—not on the floor! Others uses include: filling hard to reach tank openings like windshield washer reservoirs, brake fluid reservoirs, draining crankcase oil, or using the safety funnel with just one end attached for a safe, controlled pour of fluids such as laundry bleach, motor oil or transmission fluid.

Suggested retail is \$3.49 each.

For further information contact Jack Clancy, (516) 294-8040.

"STREN FOR LIFE" TO WORLD RECORD HOLDERS

Free fishing line for life? That's what fishermen who catch a world record fish with new "Stren" Class Line will receive from DuPont, the company announced at the American Fishing Tackle Manufacturers Association Annual Meeting in Atlanta, July 26 to 30.

For any angler setting an International Game Fish Association all-tackle or line class world record using the new aqua fluorescent tournament line, DuPont has promised "Stren for life"—2,400 yards of Stren fishing line every year for the rest of the record holder's life.

In addition to line, each world record holder will receive a World Record award plaque, patch, special fishing jacket and cap featuring the logo and color scheme of DuPont "Stren" Class Line and the International Game Fish Association.

"For years fishermen have been offered all kinds of equipment and incentives for catching record fish—from bounty money to so-called miracle lures. Finally, in Stren Class Line, they've got what they need—a line that gives them the best possible chance to set an IGFA world record," said Dr. Frank Cogdell, manager of the Stren business at DuPont, at the AFTMA conference. "We don't want people to fish for cash, we want them to fish for sport. And as part of our awards program, we'll provide them with the right fishing line for life."

To qualify for the Stren Class Line World Record Awards including "Stren for Life" potential record holders are asked to submit a copy of their IGFA application form and record certificate to Du Pont. After verification with the IGFA, DuPont will send the record holder the engraved World Record plaque, a fishing jacket, hat, patch and 2,400 yards of Stren every year.

The Stren Class Line World Record jacket is a handsome blue wind-breaker featuring the Stren Class Line emblem. The matching cap has mesh sides, an adjustable strap and the Stren Class Line logo set off by a smart gold-on-blue "scrambled egg" peak.

Stren Class Line is available nationwide in 100, 250 and 2,400 yard spools in pound test ratings for the most commonly sought IGFA record classes—1 kg, 2 kg, 4 kg, 6 kg, 8 kg, 10 kg and 15 kg. Unlike standard

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Entry Form

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Name _____ Telephone () _____

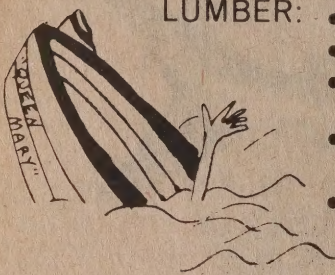
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For more information on the Stren Class Line World Record Awards, see the insert in any package of Stren Class Line or contact any retailer.

PENN'S '85 CATALOG AVAILABLE

Penn's 1985 catalog, complete with descriptions of over 100 fishing reels, downriggers and accessories, is now available to salt and freshwater anglers interested in quality fishing tackle.

Included in the 52 page, full-color catalog are specifications on each Penn model as well as recommended uses for each family of reels, which will help anglers make the right purchases.

Prominently featured in Penn's '85 catalog is the revolutionary, all-new International II Two-Speed Series of luxury lever drag reels. The new 30TW and 12T Internationals, with one-piece tubular frames, also highlight the catalog.

Other new products include a high speed, 5-1 retrieve Jigmaster reel and a medium size 100 Series skirted spool spinning reel.

Pick up a FREE copy of the new Penn Reels catalog at your local Penn dealer or send \$1 to: Penn Fishing Tackle Mfg. Co., 3028 W. Hunting Park Avenue, Dept. P, Philadelphia, PA 19132; (215) 229-9415.

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AL RISTORI



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By Al Ristori

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FENWICK ROD AND ROD BLANK CATALOGS FOR 1985

All Fenwick rods for 1985 are listed in the new Fenwick/Woodstream catalog that's more than just a list of lengths and other specifications. By reading why and how certain rods are designed and developed, the angler will, after studying the catalog, have a much better insight in deciding which models to consider. Fenwick fishing rods are not just built, they're engineered for specific purposes.

Send for your catalog right now. It costs \$1 and it's shipped postpaid. Write to Fenwick/Woodstream, 14899 Chestnut St., Westminster, CA 92683.

Also for \$1 you can order the 1985 Fenwick Rod Builder's Handbook and Blank Catalog. Everything the amateur or professional rod builder needs is listed along with tips on how to do a better job. The same top quality blanks that are used in Fenwick rods are offered and the fact is, your custom rod is only as good as the blank it's made from. Might as well start with the best in the first place!

— ATTENTION —

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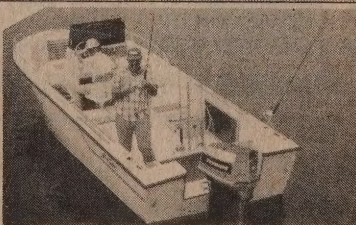
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MILLION DOLLAR BLUEFISH CONTEST

by Dick Alley

It was a super weekend. The WICC/LISA 2nd annual **Million Dollar Bluefish Contest**, got under way at 12:01 AM Saturday, midst revelry and cannon-fire at Captains Cove Marina, Bridgeport. The press and dignitaries gathered there gave a cheer, and the contest was on. It would continue until 5PM on Sunday.

Naturally, the grand prize was the million dollar baby—a bluefish of approximately five pounds—which had been tagged and released a couple of nights previous. Anyone catching this fish prior to 5PM Sunday, would receive \$50,000 a year for the next 20 years, via an insurance policy purchased on the fish.

What made this year's contest superior to last season's however, was the awarding of six additional prizes. The largest bluefish was to receive \$10,000 and the five next largest fish would receive cash awards of \$1,000 each. Needless to say, fishermen were exited and close

to 5,000 anglers registered in advance, paying a fee of \$15 to defray costs of the tournament.

Weatherwise at least, the tournament was perfect. Some nighttime breezes on Saturday night, coupled with calm sunny days to offer ideal fishing conditions. The list of winners showed the fish were accessible to anglers, despite the fact that no one saw schools of bluefish surface feeding all over Long Island Sound. Perhaps that's the way it should be.

Fishing wasn't easy, at least for this writer. I attended the fabulous kick-off bash at Cove Marina, dining on a fantastic catered clambake by Chuckta Catering of Westport, and got home late, totally destroying my previous plan of arising at 0400 hours for my first crack at the contest. It was close to 10AM by the time I got on the water and I headed for the large fleet of boats anchored at Can #24. Fish were not coming over the side at a record rate like they were less than a

week previously. Neither was there any fast action off the Cannons at Compo, or at Sherwood Island. Bedfords Pt. didn't pay off, and neither did the rock pile south of Bedfords. Like everyone else, I kept tuned to WICC for updated reports on the tote board back at Captains Cove. As the first fish were weighed in, they were coming just about as I had figured. I'd originally estimated that it would take a 20 pound fish to take the big money, but that any fish over 15 pounds was in the running for one of the generous runner-up prizes.

About 4PM, I decided to take a break with the family, and return after supper when the fish were certain to begin feeding before dark. I was there, but the fish weren't. Jerry Shannon and Herb Berman fishing alongside out by Can #1 off of Westport, picked up a five pounder without a tag, and experienced a couple of other runs, but no cigar.

Following the game plan, I return-



Nobody caught the million dollar bluefish, but Oscar Navarette did win the \$10,000 first prize with this 19.53 pounder caught off Todds Point. In the back is Oscar's wife, Marge.

ed to the dock shortly after dark, and headed for the sack where I slept soundly until 0330 hours. I was back out at Can #1 by 0415, and had the bait in the water. I fished half an hour and moved to Bedfords Pt., then to Billy's Rock off Sherwood Island, then back out to buoy 24. It was now 0630 hours, and I pulled anchor intending to move again. Retrieving my bait, I felt a hit and socked back on the hook into what I figured was a money fish. There was a long run, and I actually feared for a minute that it might be a big bass. I retrieved some line, then another run, and kept repeating the process, but there no doubt was a very heavy stubborn fish at the end of my line. I was using a conventional outfit and put my weight behind it, pumping and reeling, pumping and reeling. The harder the fish fought, the surer I was I was in the money. Finally I saw a flash. Kind of small. What's going on, I thought. I pumped again, and the outline of the fish indeed showed only about a ten pounder. Then I saw it. That fish was foul-hooked in the side, and a ten pound blue had fought like double its size, making me believe for awhile that I was a winner. A bit more of a fight, and I was able to gaff the fish and bring it aboard.

Okay, thought I. Now I have the secret. Drifting has to be the ticket, for it was when I picked up the anchor that the blue had grabbed hold. I drifted, and drifted some more, and moved to another favorite spot and drifted again, and continued to fish for another four hours. I cleaned and filleted my bluefish, tossing over the remains as chum. Finally, I gave up.

The boat back home, I napped, showered, and headed on up to Captains Cove. The excitement was building. A Wallingford Fisherman who had held sixth place all day was bumped out of the money an hour before the deadline when a Yonkers, New York angler showed up with a new third place fish.

At 5PM, the HMS Rose fired another cannon signaling the end of a glorious contest, and a cheer went up from the crowd for the winners.

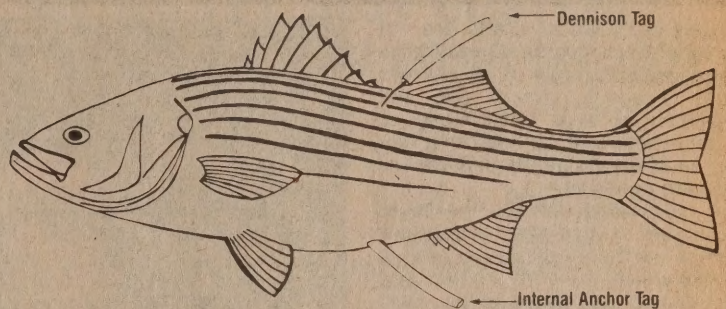
Tiny Markle of WICC, introduced Oscar Navarette and his bride, the winner of the \$10,000 first prize. Oscar took his 19:53 lb. blue off Todds Pt., when a small school of choppers went through on Saturday. There were a few 8 and 10 pounders caught by other fishermen in the area at the same time.

Lee Andre of Norwalk, Ct., took second place with a bluefish weighing 17:39 lbs. Third slot was filled an hour before the closing deadline by Frank Bizocco of Yonkers, NY with a chopper of 16:22 lbs. In fourth place was Kevin Korcz of Northport, L.I.. His fish weighed in at 15:50 lbs. Another Long Islander, Glen Dennis, took the fifth spot with a blue of 15:36 pounds.

Last, but worth a thousand dollars, was a bluefish by another Norwalk, Ct. resident, Rich Carroll. His fish

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PURPOSE The Hudson Foundation (HRF*) is coordinating a multi-year study of Hudson River striped bass population biology. You can participate in this study by returning tags from striped bass which you catch, and the HRF will pay for your assistance. The HRF will gladly accept any non-HRF tags without return addresses, however, no reward will be offered.

TAGS: During the spring, striped bass greater than 11.8 inches (30 cm) in total length will be doubled tagged as illustrated above. The tags are made of yellow vinyl tubing. The striped bass which you catch may only have one tag, due to the loss of the other. Both tags bear a letter and a five digit number (for example A00000 or B 00000), a reward value and the mailing address of the HRF (listed below). Most tags will read "REWARD \$5-\$1000" or "REWARD \$10-\$1000". Some tags will read "REWARD \$10" but will be treated as if they read "REWARD \$10-\$1000". If you catch a tagged striped bass, whether you intend to keep it or release it, carefully cut off the tag where it passes through the fish's skin. When you return a tag, the HRF will send you the minimum reward printed on the tag (\$5 or \$10) and a questionnaire asking for the date on which you captured the fish bearing the tag submitted, the fish's length, the location and method of capture and the condition of the tag insertion site. Upon completion and return of the questionnaire, your tag number will be added to the eligibility list for a drawing to be held in February. Nine tag numbers will be randomly selected from all of those returned. The HRF will award \$100 per tag to the first five fishermen whose numbers are drawn, \$500 per tag to the next two fishermen whose numbers are drawn and \$1000 per tag to the last two fishermen whose numbers are drawn.

*The HRF is a not for profit organization which sponsors scientific, economic and public policy research on matters of environmental, ecological and public health concern to the Hudson River and its tributaries.

HUDSON RIVER FOUNDATION

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weighed 15:34 lbs.

It was a good contest. The organization and running of the contest was noteworthy. Qualifying fish were weighed and immediately gutted. Winners were notified right away, and even provided with seaplane transportation to Captains Cove for awards. Press, ranging from TV to the printed media, was accommodated in a courteous and fair manner.

Most of all it was evident that this contest favored no one in particular, and was fair to all anglers. Winners came from both Long Island and the Conn./Westchester shore. I know personally two of the winners—Lee Andre and Rich Carroll of Norwalk—and if dedication to the sport and

fishing skills are any indication, it is evident that those the most deserving finished in the money. I spoke briefly with grand prize winner Oscar Navarette, and he is by no means an occasional fisherman. He knows his sport, puts in the time, and is a real gentleman.

And so, the contest is over until next year—or is it?

Tiny Markle drew an extra cheer at the awards ceremony when he announced that contest officials had placed a bounty on that Million Dollar Bluefish. Until Thanksgiving, that fish is now worth \$5,000 to anyone previously registered in the bluefish contest for this season. Now that's the right way to end a fishing contest.

BACKYARD SLAMMERS

by Tom Schlichter

The jetty framed confines of Moriches Inlet produce slammer size blues every fall for boatmen in the know.

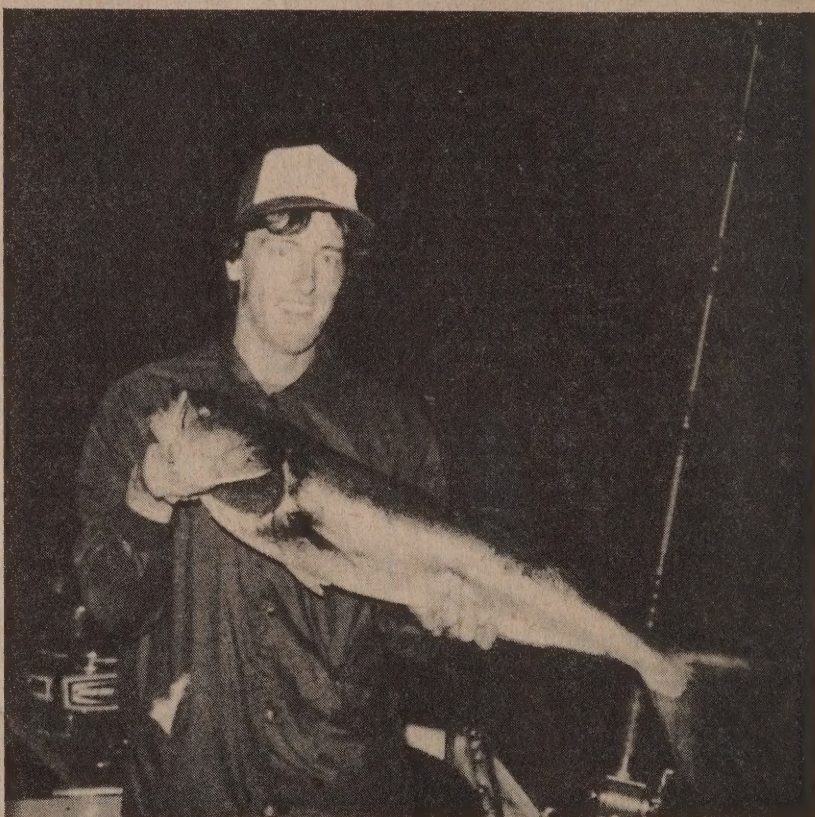
For those of us whose crafts are not large enough to traverse several miles of open ocean in search of well known bluefish grounds, there are still possibilities for large blues closer to port. Moriches Inlet is such a possibility, as blues up to 18 pounds are taken here each fall.

The great attraction for the blues here centers around the tremendous variety of life that finds shelter among the rocks which line both the east and west shores of this passageway. Each fall, sand eels, spearing and other baitfish beginning their fall migrations, exit Moriches Bay via the inlet and head out into the open Atlantic, creating in effect a giant chum slick. This slick draws the attention of passing game fish which follow it towards its source for a little investigation. Once reaching the rocks, large blues and other predators (including an occasional striped bass or weakfish), discover hordes of small flounder, blackfish and bergalls. With the larger prey making for a quick and filling meal the blues seem to forget for the moment the schools of small baitfish to which they were first attracted and concentrate instead on picking larger dinners from along the rocks.

Many fishermen become aware of this activity quite by accident while fluking or blackfishing. I recall one friend who nearly fell overboard while watching a 12 pound plus bluefish engulf a small blackfish he was attempting to lift into the boat. Another angler stared in disbelief as he retrieved the head and gills of a small fluke that a blue had intercepted as the flatie was being reeled to the surface. In each instance the culprit escaped, leaving frustrated fishermen to say something along the lines of "I didn't know there were blues like that around here!"

Indeed, there are big blues at each of the south shore inlets every fall, but timing is crucial to connect with them. At Moriches, big blues seem to move into the inlet areas mostly on the rising tide and they do not often stay around too long, choosing instead to eat and run. Those fishermen who take the time to figure out which stage of the tide the blues attack on and come prepared with suitable tackle and bait will get their share of fish.

For the most part, fishermen keen on this action liveline small blackfish in attempts to hook up. In fact, one



Big blues are often taken here after dark on baits meant for cow bass.

regular to the area continually blackfishes with one rod while dead sticking a livelined blackfish of about half a pound for the blues. This way, even if the large game fish are not about, he rarely goes home empty-handed. This same angler one day last fall nailed bluefish of 12 and 14 pounds. In addition to more than 20 tautog up to 6½ pounds. That's what I call a good day of fishing!

Tackle for this action should be fairly heavy compared to most other bay or inlet setups. Since the blues are so large, standard ocean bluefish rods and reels should be used. A solid 3/0 reel such as the Penn Jigmaster fitted on a stiff 5½ to 6 foot rod and loaded with 30 lb. test mono is the preferred outfit.

Just about anything that swims and weighs less than half a pound can be utilized as bait for ravaging blues. Small blackfish are a personal favorite but some anglers use small flounder, bergalls, snappers or even shoestring eels. Depending on your choice of bait

(or more likely, what bait you happen to catch), terminal ends vary slightly. This is due to the relative strengths and tendencies of each type of baitfish. Flounder or blackfish, for example, need little, if any help to get down to the bottom. Provided the tide is not too strong, all one must do is hook one of these morsels on the line and lower away. They will naturally swim straight for the bottom—which, incidentally, is where the blues are most likely to be. Snappers, on the other hand, tend to stay above the blues and thus need to be preceded by a little weight so that they will stay deep.

In any case, the way to start out your terminal end is with a size #2/0 to 4/0 beak or O'Shaughnessy style hook preceded by a two to four inch length of wire leader—just like the south shore party boats setup. If you feel it is necessary, this hook can be preceded by an egg-shaped slip sinker of two to four ounces. Be sure to place the sinker about three feet

ahead of the bait so that it will ride a little above the bottom and be clearly visible to feeding blues.

The fishing may be done from either an anchored or drifting boat. Like the angler previously mentioned, I enjoy anchoring and working over the resident blackfish population while allowing a "dead stick" to trail down-tide. The first small blackfish or bergall I catch is hooked in the flesh directly behind the head and in front of the dorsal fin. Some anglers prefer to use a treble hook or two-hook set-up, but I find the single hook rig quite sufficient. Once rigged, the bait is played out into the current. If all goes well, your bait will head straight for the bottom. The rod is then placed in a holder with the drag set light enough so that should a bluefish strike, it will be able to pull line from the reel with little resistance. Strikes are usually of an unquestionable nature as the blues tend to hit and run. It's a good idea at the first sign of a strike to disengage the reel and allow 10 to 15 feet of line to free spool before setting the hook. The amount of line to free spool can be difficult to gauge. Too much will allow the blue to swallow the hook past the leader and increase the chance of a cutoff. Too little and the fish may not have enough time to completely swallow your bait. When you think the time is right, tighten down on your drag and lean back on the rod. If the fish is on, there will be no room left for doubt.

While weights are not usually necessary when fishing from an anchored boat (unless the tides are strong or you are using live snappers for bait), drifted baits usually require some type of weight to keep in contact with the bottom. Either a small drail, a few rubber core clinch sinkers, or an egg-shaped slip sinker will need to be put to use. Lower your bait over the side (do not cast as this will stun the baitfish), and drift it 30 to 50 feet behind the boat or as far back as necessary to occasionally bounce bottom.

During the fall, large blues can be encountered anywhere from the elbow area to outside the inlet. The deep water at the new cut is also productive on occasion. My best luck has always come along that half of the west jetty that is closest to the ocean and in the deep hole at the head of this jetty.

Take your time while playing these fish. You will find that when they use the tide to their advantage, these blues can put quite a strain on your tackle. Be sure your drag is set properly—especially if you have been dead-sticking and allow your rod to tire the fish.

Big blues in this area are a rare bonanza. However, there are a fair number of fish taken by those who intentionally set out to do so. So this fall, when the action heats up a few miles offshore, look for some blues closer to home. When you find should be no accident or surprise—just great fun!

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SALT CHUCK TROUT

by Gian Padovani

The author discovers Long Island's tidal streams and rivers harbor a surprisingly good sea-run trout fishery.

When the alarm clock exploded its shrill signals at 4AM, I was ready for it. It had been difficult falling asleep, with the visions of fish and fishing, that only the imagination can give. After rinsing my face and gulping down a cup of coffee, I drove to the shop where we were to meet. Ron and Charlie arrived shortly after and, in the faint glow that precedes the rising of the sun, we made our way to the river. We parked the car and headed for the mist that indicated the water. As I stepped into its coolness I couldn't help the feeling of excitement that pervaded my body. The prospect of fishing always does that to me, and this was a new experience, a new water, a new fish.

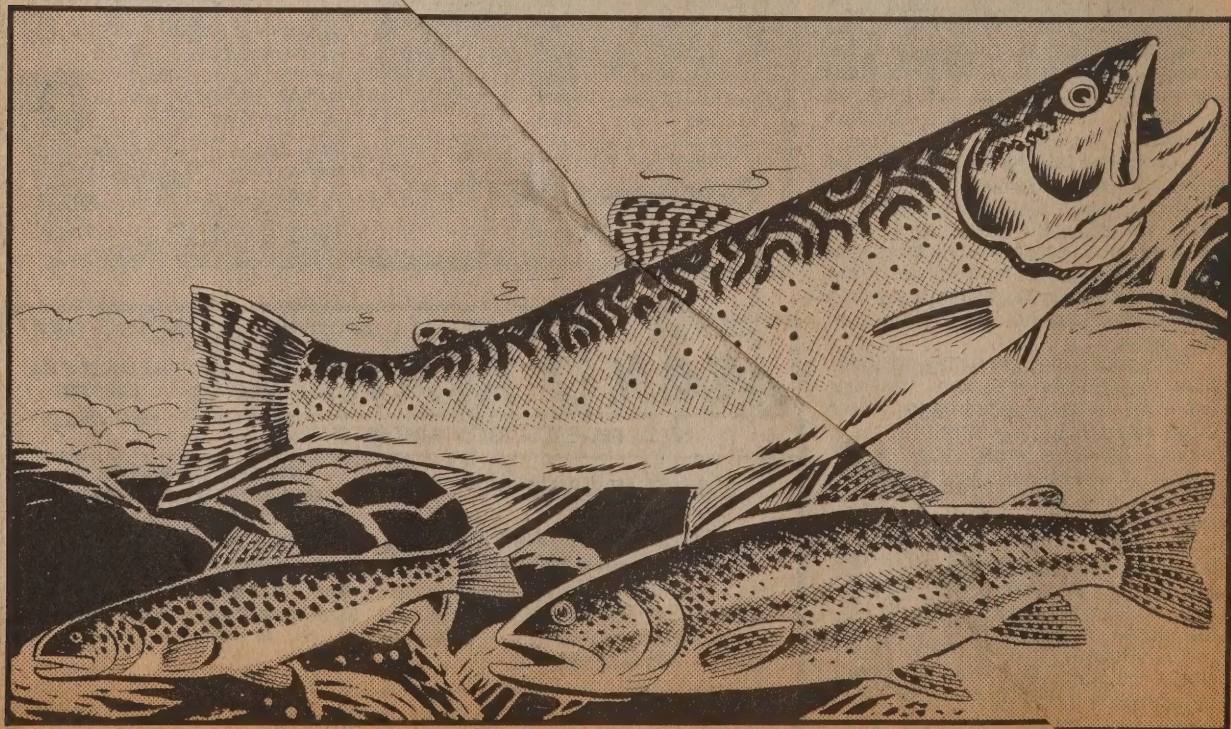
Sea-run trout. There is something mysterious about those three words that conjures fish toughened up and tempered by the brine, eager to put up the most fantastic battle a fly fisher can experience. I have read how esteemed these trout are in the British Isles, surpassing even the mighty Atlantic salmon in the angler's preference. I have also read about the sea run brook trout of the Northeast and of the sea-run rainbows, or steelheads, of the North-

west. These fish have been successfully introduced in several of the Great Lakes and on several occasions I have experienced the thrill of a hooked steelhead, in the rivers emptying into Lake Ontario. But the words "sea-run trout" were beckoning me to try for them and so, it was with anticipation that I waited for a chance to test my skill and luck with these fish.

The opportunity came recently when I visited "Creative Fly Fishing," a shop located in the town of Oakdale. In an area where the majority of the anglers fish in the sea, the shop caters to fly rod enthusiasts who angle in fresh water for trout and bass. Surrounded by the sea, Long Island has only a few small lakes and ponds, plus three major tidal creeks. These are the Nissequogue, which empties in the Sound, and the Carmans and the Connetquot, which empty in the southern bays. All of these three rivers have had experimental stockings of sea-run trout.

It was in the shop that I met Charlie Cushman. He had come in shortly after my arrival, to purchase a fly fishing vest. I couldn't help hearing his remark to Ron Prawicka, one of

the owners, that he had "done pretty good." When I casually interjected the questions of what, when and where, the reply of "Sea-run browns. Today, The river," gave me a feeling of excitement. I was aware that our local Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) had been experimenting with a new strain of sea-run trout from Germany, but had no idea of how successfully it had developed. In the past I had heard rumors of sea-run trout catches from several anglers, but my questioning only evoked blank faces or evasive answers. Charlie, on the contrary, was very enthusiastic about his success and only needed a little prodding, to invite me along on the next excursion. This enthusiasm was enhanced once he discovered that, on Ron's suggestion, I was going to write a report about the trip. In the past I had caught a couple of sea-run trout in the Nissequogue River, but this was in the upper reaches of the river and, aside from a more silvery appearance, I had no certainty that the fish had indeed been out at sea. Thus, what intrigued me the most about the upcoming trip, was the fact that we would be fishing where the river



emptied into the bay. The next few days passed with agonizing slowness with my thoughts revolving around the fishing.

The salmon and trout are very unusual fishes; all of them have the ability to adapt their life to fresh and salt water, though only a few strains of some species do so on a regular basis. This ability is also shared by the charrs, such as the Arctic and brook and Dolly Varden, the last two fish erroneously referred to as trouts. The salmon, with the exception of the landlocked variety, are truly anadromous but a few species have been successfully introduced into several rivers which empty into lakes. All salmonids ascend the rivers and tributaries to spawn, regardless of whether coming from the sea or lakes. They search the gravelly bottoms to scoop out the nests, and deposit the eggs of future generations. In the East Coast, pollution has been the worst offender to the sea-going anadromous fish and has restrained and prevented several species from continuing the millennium long cycle. In the last several years, the stringent control measures imposed on the industries and the "clean our environment" campaigns fostered by many sport and conservation groups, have resulted in a slow purging of our northeastern rivers, which may reinstate an anadromous fishery. This would include the sea-run brown trout.

The brown trout is truly an amazing fish. Within its genus it includes many strains and varieties, yet only a couple are available to the anglers of American waters. These are the descendants from the original imports, from England and Germany and are both inland strains, unwilling to wander off to sea. Several unsuccessful attempts have been made in the past to introduce a truly sea-going strain that would "take" in our waters. New techniques and added knowledge, many finally bring the desired results, but as yet, these are spotty. The fish caught off the Great South Bay average 12 to 16 inches long, a far cry from those caught off the English or Irish coasts, which average over 5 pounds and with specimens going over 15 pounds! Nevertheless, it is not impossible that really large trout are lurking in the brackish waters of our Great South Bay canals.

As per Charlie's directions, I had tied a 9 foot leader with a 5X tippet on my floating fly line. It is interesting that the trout which feed on sea fare while in the brine, reverts to an insectivorous diet once they approach the brackish water. This fact resolved the dilemma of what type of fly I should begin fishing with. I settled for a nymph, the Otter, which could resemble an insect, a scud or a shrimp. Though I was somewhat skeptical about the size (20), again I followed Charlie's directions. I moved carefully, feeling the bottom with my feet and when the pressure of the

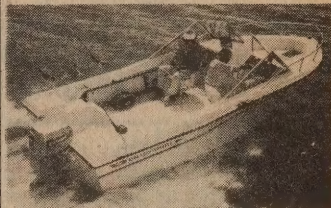
water constricted the waders around my waist, I stopped and lit a cigarette. I inhaled the smoke, hoping to savor its flavor, but when the sound of a fish breaking water emerged over the chirps of the crickets, I couldn't wait to start casting. "Here we go!" I heard Charlie saying, and sure enough, the bend on his rod confirmed that he had connected. In the dimness of the early morning light I looked at him with envy as he deftly netted the fish. Next, it was Ronnie's turn. He had waded further down, but his yell of excitement did not fail to reach us. "What about me?" I thought, as I watched with anticipation. "I got to catch one!"

As I continued to fish I realized that there was something almost unnatural, certainly different, from what I had experienced before. It wasn't the fact that the bottom was sandy and soft or that the smell of the air was indicative of salt marshes. It wasn't either the presence of several sea-going crafts, tied up alongside the homes flanking the river. It was something else and eventually, it dawned on me: through the filter of my polarizing glasses, I spotted a tight formation of snapper bluefish, swimming over several sand crabs making their way upstream. No, this was definitely not a mountain stream with its rushing liquid on amassed stones. It was a different water, rippled by the breeze from the bay and moving slowly but with determination, against the changing tide.

I began watching Charlie, admiring the smooth flow of his casting and trying to detect his method of retrieve. My line, which was floating toward the direction of the sea, suddenly shot forward sending a jolt to my reflexes. The fish fought with no acrobatics; a steady, strong pull against the fragile tippet and a rod with no mercy. It was a beautiful fish, a 14 inch with clearly marked spots over the bluish-silvery flanks. The body was plump and robust from the abundant diet that included shrimp, scuds and insects. Nevertheless, the fish's finnage bore evidence of skirmishes with marine predators. As I released the trout, I wondered if the rapacious bluefish weren't indeed the reason why a sea-run population of trout was not successful in our waters.

I decided to experiment and switched to a silver-ribbed streamer. I cast the new offering and began working it toward me. No results. I cast again and speeded up the retrieve. As the fly came toward me, I noted a wake behind it and felt a strike. As I had expected, a snapper had engulfed the fly! I cast again and it was easy to see that the juvenile bluefish loved that feather and tinsel. By now the sun was high in the sky and we decided to call it quits, at least until the evening. We got back to the Creative Angler and Bob Ritzert, the other owner of the shop, looked up and smiled. "Got any fish?" "Sure," I said, "the best eating kinds!" and emptied my creel-full of snappers!

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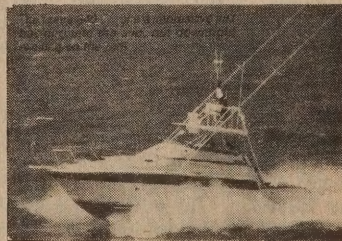
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MONTAUK'S SILVER LODGE

by Gerald Hahn

The payoff is big humpback porgies for trailer boat fans who journey to Montauk in the weeks ahead.

Porgies are often compared to freshwater sunfish, for both species are scrappy little fighters who often fill in slow periods for anglers, especially in the summer. But unlike sunnies, porgies also come in family-sized packages and these fish are stronger battlers than some of our reputable predators. Although these fish, known as sea porgies, sea scup and humpbacks, are taken sporadically in the summer, armies of them congregate in late summer and fall.

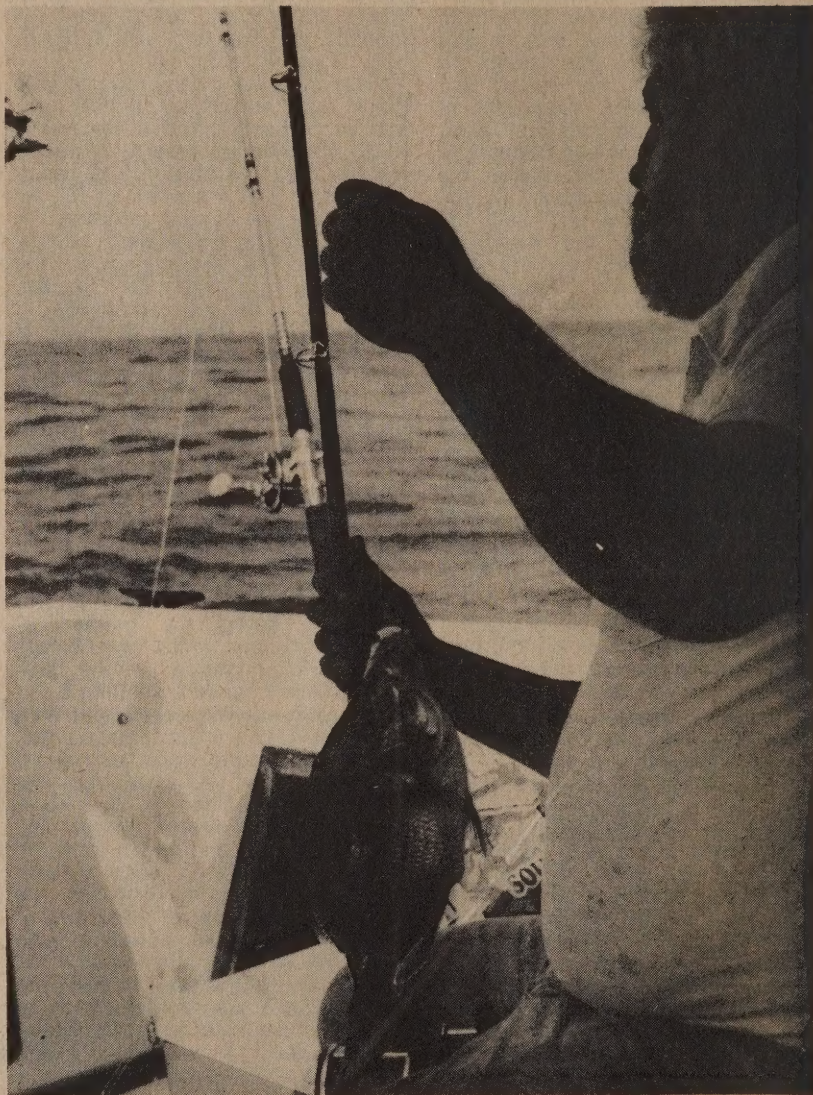
Sea porgies first arrive around mid-May and spawn in the Peconics. Within a few weeks they spread throughout this bay system and make weakfish anglers do double-takes. By summertime, the younger "sand" porgies are found all along Long Island Sound's inshore waters while the large ones head east to Gardiner's Island, Cartwright Island and Napeague Harbor, before finally invading Montauk.

Indeed, at Montauk the porgies should be renamed "super scup," for they are so large that two pounders are commonly taken and three pounders hardly raise an eyebrow. Super scup are fond of the rocky bottom and strong currents at Great Eastern, about 1½ miles east of the lighthouse. They also like Outer Shagwong on the north side and the waters off Caswell's and Ditch Plains on the south side.

At various times of the season, I join two fishing companions, Harry Kramer and Joe Zucker, who share a 20½ foot Glastron boat powered by a Johnson 150, and we head out to Great Eastern. The water here is too treacherous for a rowboat and a 9 hp outboard. Although the water around Great Eastern is only 35 to 45 feet deep, the current is unusually strong, and consequently, the best porgy fishing takes place just before and after slack water, at which time 4 to 6 ounces of lead will do. Of the two, high slack is slower, and therefore better, than low slack.

Tackle, of course, must be beefed up accordingly. A 6 foot boat rod with a strong tip and a reel comparable to the Penn 65 spooled with 20 pound test should be considered. Although many people favor spinning rods and surf reels, a conventional outfit is better for letting out line and maintaining line control at Great Eastern.

In the bays, harbors and shallower regions of the Sound, people often



Montauk is noted for producing the "biggest kind" of porgies.

rig their hooks in tandem, for small porgies will eagerly attack two baited hooks set close together. Super scup, unlike the hero in "Superman II," may not need the entire universe for their battles, but they do require more space than a tandem rig provides. Therefore, anglers use a high-low rig, consisting of size 1 beak or claw hooks with barbs on the shank and 12 inch snelled leaders of 30 pound test. An end loop on the fishing line secures a bank sinker, and two dropper loops hold the snelled hooks. The bottom

dropper is tied about two or three inches above the sinker, and the top one is tied at least a snell's length above the first. This provides adequate room for two super scup to show their stuff. It must be said, however, that Montauk's swirling currents often play havoc with snelled hooks secured this way, particularly the top one which may wrap around the main line. A three-way swivel for the top hook alleviates this problem to some extent; it also reduces line twist. This kind of rig requires an 18 inch

leader of 30 pound test. The leader and the fishing line are tied to two of the swivel's eyelets with improved clinch knots, and the third eyelet receives the snelled hook. The rest of the leader is then used to connect the bottom hook and sinker, as described above. Shortening the top snell to 8 or 10 inches also helps.

Although the high-low rig predominates at Montauk, fishermen here like to experiment, and they often discover other rigging methods. For example, when we drift for porgies, Harry favors a single hook on a long leader and a bead chain drail two feet above.

"What are you going for—weaks, fluke or porgies?" I rib Harry.

He grunts a reply, and then out-fishes me with this rig.

Certainly, one advantage of a drail sinker is that the hook seldom tangles. And when I think about it, the rig is not so odd after all. In the Keys, for example, bottom fishermen in party boats often employ a Florida rig when fishing in deep water. A large egg sinker is threaded on the main line, and then a barrel swivel is tied to the end of the line. The snelled hook is secured to the remaining eye of the swivel in the same fashion as Harry's rig. No matter whether the boat is anchored or drifting, this rig is deadly against the immense groupers and mutton snappers that feed on the coral strewn bottom. The rig seems to snag less frequently than our standard bottom rig. However, if one were fishing for a species that is not fond of a bait doing a Hula dance—cod and blackfish, for instance—then a drail or egg sinker on the line would not make the most effective rig, since the sinker rolls. But this is certainly not a problem with Montauk's super scup.

Another odd rig, which some charter boat skippers employ at Montauk, resembles a mackerel tree rig. Three hooks, without snelled leaders, are simply secured to three large dropper loops on the main line. The bottom dropper begins about two inches above the sinker (secured with an end loop) and the other two are spaced about 10 inches apart. All three hooks remain within the scups' feeding zone.

Rigging is certainly one difference between fishing for sea porgies and fishing for bay porgies. Another difference is the bait one selects. The number one porgy bait in every bay is a costly sand worm. At Montauk, however, sand worms are a third-rate bait. Skimmer clams are by far the best, and squid comes in second. Secure a skimmer on the hook, by twisting and impaling it several times. Use small pieces, working the tough tongue on the hook and leaving a trace of the soft stuff dangling below. The barbs on the hook shank will provide additional hold-fasts for this delectable, though rather soft, bait. Squid should be cut in wedges about 1/2 inch wide by 1 1/2 inches long and rigged in the same manner as clams. If you think squid is a poor

bait for sea scup, try using a squid head. This often discarded section is as deadly as a skimmer on super scup. Trim the tentacles a bit and impale the head twice on the hook and you will see what I mean.

When the current slows down at Great Eastern, most people anchor and chum for porgies. Likely spots are first discovered by drifting. A chum pot filled with clam bellies, cracked mussels, or even ground mossbunker, is lowered to the bottom, and several shellfish are cracked over the side as well. Sea porgies will follow these released essences to their source, where baited hooks, of course, should await them.

Anglers unaccustomed to the quickness of porgies are generally frustrated by their antics. In this respect, super scup are as cunning as sand scup. At Great Eastern, for example, by the time the rather heavy rig hits the bottom, the hooks are already stripped. If this occurs time and again, use shorter snells or the three-hook rig without snells. When the current moves, the problem is increased. Here, experienced anglers drop the rig quickly and then release a little extra line as soon as they feel the bottom. The rod is then whipped one time, and the movement this imparts snatches the scup. One whip, three scup.

In late-September and early October, be prepared for other species mixed in with the scup. Sea bass love squid, but unfortunately, so do sand sharks and sea skates. The latter, particularly, resist like a ton of lead when you try to bring them in. For they use their great "wings" to great effect, adding to the current's resistance. The wings, incidentally, are a great delicacy, but if these relatives of the shark serve no purpose for you, release them.

In the fall, Montauk's super scup are so desirable that specialists travel long distances to cash in on the run. I once met a fisherman in the parking lot in western Long Island while helping a friend with his boat.

"Where you from?" I began.

"Point Pleasant, New Jersey," he answered.

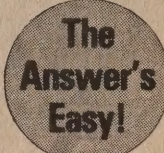
Of course, we immediately exchanged yarns about his fine boat and New Jersey's excellent bluefishing, especially the bonuses of bonito.

"Why are you fishing here, then, when the bluefishing's just as good in New Jersey?"

"Oh, I'm not here to catch blues," he said. "I'm going to Montauk for porgies."

That's a trip of at least 4 1/2 hours. For ordinary porgies, it might not be worthwhile, but for Montauk's humpbacks, it certainly is. You can cash in, too, even if you have no boat. Board one of Montauk's party boats before the scup depart for the Continental Shelf. These filleting-sized fish are excellent eating and a thrill to catch. They may not grow to the size of southern snappers, but they are super-sized nonetheless.


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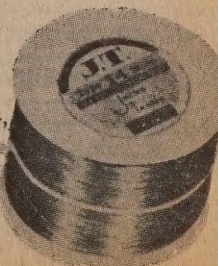

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GIANT SQUID = GIANT TUNA

by Pete Barrett

A "secret" trolling technique from Massachusetts may prove successful for New York Bight giant bluefins.

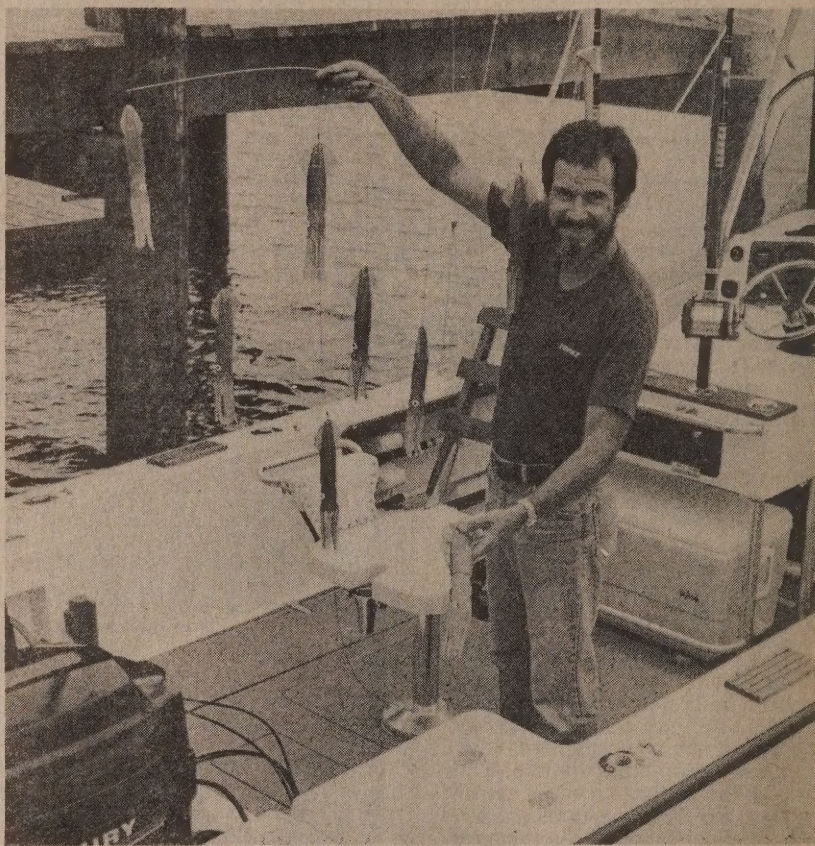
Would you believe 20 giant bluefins caught by one boat in one season? Steve Moreton and Bob Mayo did it in 1983 and they did it by trolling a secret lure they perfected over the last several years specifically designed to fool giant bluefins. This season up in the waters around Cape Cod Bay you will find fleets of sport fishermen trolling these proven lures. As Steve described it, "If you flew over Cape Cod Bay you'd see schools of daisy chain squids chasing most of the boats."

They call the lure the SQUID SPREADER RIG and it looks like an overgrown version of an umbrella rig with one cross arm missing. Four squid are mounted on leaders dropped off the main spreader bar, then a long center leader has a daisy chain of squid with a 12/0 hook placed in the last squid. Troll three of these rigs off the back of your boat and Steve's description of schools of squid chasing boats becomes real—each rig looks just like a school of large, tasty squid just waiting to be plucked by a giant tuna.

The day I talked to Steve for information on how to troll the rigs he was just off the water after a successful battle with an 800 pound plus bluefin—caught on one of the spreader rigs, naturally. According to Steve and Bob, the rigs should work well in the Mud Hole area of the New York Bight, taking tuna just like the rigs have in many other areas. Anglers off Montauk, Block Island and, of course, Cape Cod have taken numerous tuna from mid-sized fish up to giants of better than 900 pounds. Perhaps a record is not far behind!

The idea of trolling for giants is appealing to many North Jersey and Long Island fishermen who don't enjoy all the hassles of anchoring and chumming for bluefins. You do need lots of anchor line, be able to release the boat from the anchor after a hook-up, chum with anywhere from 4 to 12 flats of bunker and have the patience of a saint to sit out a slow day.

Trolling, assuming it is productive in our waters, offers several advantages since you can cover more water which may put you into more chances at hook-ups, is far easier with less special equipment needed and requires the angler to watch the Loran, recorder and chart as the trolling pattern is guided during the day. There should be little time for boredom to set in.



Eight squid are trailed from a spreader bar to fool giant tuna. Many trollers hope the method and the lure will work in New York Bight.

I recently purchased several of the giant spreader rigs and also spent time with Steve and Bob at a Workshop hosted by The Fisherman Magazine back in June. They were able to demonstrate their "secret" technique to nearly 200 avid tuna fishermen and if even a few picked up on the ideas, we will probably see some trollers trying for giants with the new method. Since the method is so new to our area, the tips that follow are direct from Steve Moreton. I've had no chance to troll for giants yet, but I'm anxiously awaiting the appearance of the first horse tuna on the scene.

The rigs are made up with eight squid, supplied by Frank Johnson's Mold Craft Lure Company. They are soft and supple and look, according to Steve, "just like live frightened squid. Real squid light up in a gold/amber color that tuna find irresistible and the Mold Craft squid duplicate

this perfectly." The two best colors are the amber and the clear squids.

The lures are usually fished three at a time: one off each outrigger and one run down the center. The best position would put the center rig in the closest to the boat allowing for tighter turns.

Steve prefers to put the lures back far enough so the squids lay on top of the water, splatting the surface much like live squid, but not so far back that the line and swivel are also hitting the water. If the lead squid on the center daisy chain is lifting clear of the water, the rigs are in too close, so try a longer drop-back.

The ideal trolling speed is 3 to 3½ knots; relatively slow in comparison to trolling speeds we are accustomed to for canyon type tuna trolling for bigeyes and yellowfins, but perfect for giants.

When placing the rig in the water, Steve cautions anglers to pay careful

attention to the leaders so they don't wrap around the spreader bar. A giant could easily break free unless the main center leader is completely free of the bar.

Tackle of 130 pound is preferred, but 80 or 80W reels will beat mid-sized fish and smaller giants. Anything less than a full 130 may leave you holding an empty reel if you do hook up with a grander! Not having a money tree in the back yard, I'm using my 80Ws and praying that we only hook reasonable size fish. If we do hook a truly big fish—well, it will make a good fish story I suppose.

Drags should be set at approximately 1/3 the breaking strength of the line in the strike position. While trolling, the drag lever is moved back from strike so a lighter drag setting of about 1/4 the line strength. This slightly lighter setting prevents line breakage at the instant of hook-up. Once the fish is on, the lever is moved up to the strike position. Later when the fish is at boat-side and double line is on the reel, move the lever to the full setting for maximum lifting power.

Where to troll is not so easy to answer. The obvious first answer is to troll where giants were caught last year, yet that means trolling near the chumming fleets and that may cause problems. If you plan to try the spreader rigs we must caution you to stay clear of the chummers. It's not fair to ruin their chances at a fish once they are on anchor. Stay clear.

I plan to work the same structure that held school bluefins this summer: the Mud Hole, the HA, the middle hole at Monster Ledge and perhaps even out to the Chicken Canyon. Last fall there were many reports of sightings of giants at such a wide variety of locations that I believe they could show up anywhere in the areas just mentioned. Last October while blue-fishing at the mouth of the Slough, my son and a few of his buddies encountered bluefins in the medium size of about 300 pounds breaking water all around the boat! I've talked to many anglers who have seen giants (or at least sizeable bluefins) just beyond the Klondike, near the HA buoy and near the Resor.

The spreaders have also worked on other fish. Steve mentioned several examples of fishermen out of New England and out of Long Island who had taken bigeye, yellowfin, longfin albacore and even white and blue marlin. The lures are not then limited only to fishing for giants—they can, and do, take other species.

While it is not usually the policy of The Fisherman to editorialize about a single product, in this case we believe the Squid Spreader Rig is so innovative we would be doing a disservice to our readers if we didn't publish the background on this new method.

For more information, you can write to Steve Moreton/Bob Mayo at M&M Distributing, or call them at (617) 775-9306. Dealers are also welcome to call.

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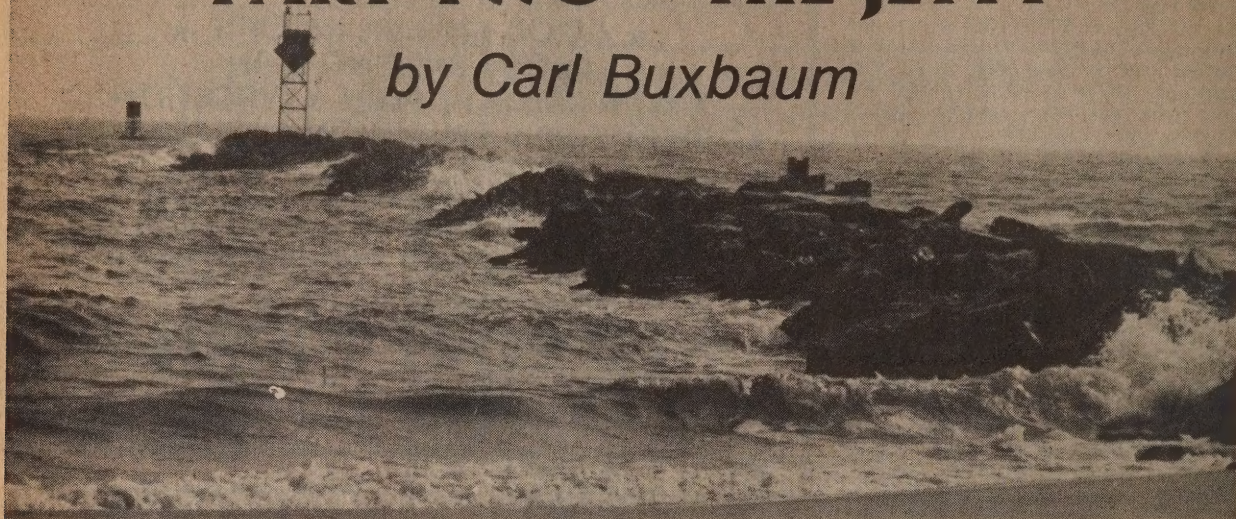


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FALL AT WEST END

PART TWO—THE JETTY

by Carl Buxbaum



Each time I fished "the pocket," wading out as far as possible, the jetty loomed seductively to my right. The swirling water near its end was obviously striper territory. But, with water on both sides, the rocks were often awash. It's not worth killing yourself for a fish, I thought. One particular jetty jockey, however, wouldn't let me rest with that thought. He seemed to be out there every time I showed up, and I developed the habit of hanging around until he retreated to the beach under the pressure of rising tides and heavy seas. Rarely did his catch fail to taunt me. It usually included a couple of schoolie bass or big blues and, every so often, a striper in the 20 to 30 pound range—sometimes taken in mid-afternoon. To make matters worse, around sunset, a cadre of very businesslike casters would climb out onto the rocks, bringing to mind rich fantasies about the after-dark action. With an envious heart, I spent lots of time talking to and questioning the regulars trekking on and off the jetty. I began to think it possible to work the place without getting killed. But my first attempt was far from reassuring.

Equipped with a long gaff and a contraption I made with golf spikes strapped to my wader boots, I moved out about 40 feet along the rocks. Clearly, my preparations were inadequate. Before me was a gap in the rocks, too big to step across. There was no easy way around it. Now, the reason the pros all wore foul weather pants and short boots rather than waders struck home. No matter how I tried to step across the gap, the waders held me back. If only my legs could reach their full extension. Well, I wasn't about to quit at that point. What's a little water in the face and

down the neck, anyway. By climbing down into the gaps and back up on their other sides, slow, wet but steady progress was made. The rocks seemed more slippery now, and my feet wouldn't hold. What about those spikes? A peek at my "brilliant" creation revealed that only two spikes remained on one foot and four on the other. They had been popping out as I climbed. The six loyal spikes looked none too secure. Half an hour later I was back where I started, in "the pocket"—shivering and soaked to the bones, after crawling back on hands and knees.

This jetty is more difficult to master than most. Both its basic structure and the fact that heavy seas wash each side make it inhospitable to humans. Over the years, a number of skilled rock hounds have found themselves scrambling out of the water searching for a grip on its slimy rocks. Broken bones have been reported. Stay off it during the higher tidal stages in rough seas. Get to know it inch by inch at low tide, during the day, and make sure to be properly equipped before the first serious adventure.

Being equipped means wearing splash pants and short boots, not waders, plus tried, true, and reliable creepers (commercially available golf rubbers or spiked sandals grab the rocks with more authority than felt or carpet soles). A gaff six feet long, eight is better, is necessary; as is a sturdy stringer to keep the catch from being washed off the rocks or getting lost in the crevices. The stringer should be fairly short or rigged to the surf belt in a manner that prevents lengths of it from trailing behind the angler. Otherwise, it will snag repeatedly or tangle around the caster's

legs, causing a nuisance and a safety hazard as he skips about among the rocks. Venturing out on the jetty after sunset requires a neck light that throws a powerful beam and can take some punishment. The four-celled Just-Rite seems suitable. A lot of rocks, instead of fish, will feel the gaff's point without one and it sure helps in picking one's way over the breakwater on dark nights.

The water on the left, or ocean, side of the jetty is nearly always very turbulent. Near its tip, a powerful tidal rip is added, and on the right, or inlet side, the caster must cope with a potent river-like current. Consequently, a surf rod with enough backbone to steer a good fish under these conditions is a must. Individual anglers may prefer different length rods. Through the years, however, I have come to settle on the longer sticks, 10 to 11½ feet. Ordinarily, my preferred jetty rod is a stiff eight footer matched with a Penn 710 reel. It's easier to dance around rocks with a short, light outfit, and long casts are presumably unnecessary. But there are many places here where it is inconvenient for the fisherman to stand at the edge of the rocks. Therefore, when the lure slips downtide during the retrieve, it may be snagged by the jetty or the abrasion resistance of the line can be tested to the limit if contact with rocks isn't prevented. I put up with occasional snags until the night a good-sized striper was nearly lost. By the time the fish was played out, it was way downtide and parallel to the jetty. While taking up line by walking toward the fish and pushing the rod tip as far seaward as it could reach, a moderate wave tossed the exhausted bass into the rocks. The fish couldn't be moved, and line was

draped over the outer barnacle-encrusted boulders. I scrambled toward her, arriving just in time. The five inch Rebel fell free as the fish was gaffed. Not wanting to tempt luck again, I switched to an 11½ footer for awhile. Its longer reach kept line off, and fish out of, the rocks. During the past couple of seasons a 10 footer has done just as good a job with greater comfort.

Many surfcasters prefer 20 pound test line and hefty monofilament or wire leaders when working rock-strewn areas. That way line abrasion problems are reduced, and a bit more muscle can be applied, when they hook up with a real brute. But a price is paid. Large diameter line is more vulnerable to the influence of the swift tidal flow found here. It often bellies in the current and drags the lure unrealistically. Setting the hooks becomes a hit or miss proposition. The heavy stuff also reduces casting distance and impedes the action of light or small lures. In my experience, these are the lures that will put the most fish on the stringer. Fifteen pound line with a 36 inch leader of 30 to 40 pound mono seems like a good compromise. Twelve pound line will bring more hook-ups, but extra power is sometimes needed in this hazardous zone of crashing seas, boulders, and extraordinary currents. Trade off some of those smaller fish in order not to lose the big one you've waited for.

Before dark nearly any of the daytime standard lures, tins and poppers, will work at one time or another. But, if there's no action, don't persist with these—especially near the jetty's tip. Switch to bucktails dressed with pork rind. Select a weight barely heavy enough to bounce bottom, depending on the speed of the tide, and tick it along with an occasional short, sharp upward sweep of the rod. Allow the jig to hit bottom again before resuming the retrieve. Fish hit most often as the jig takes off or while on the fall. Be alert for the latter. It's easy to miss setting the hook. White and yellow are good colors. White, though, seems to have a solid edge. A selection weighing from one-half to two ounces should cover the range of situations faced. Sometimes, white Tri-Fin Whip Tails, in the smaller sizes, do equally well. It's really surprising how often this approach will stir the aggressive instincts of predatory fish in an apparently dead sea.

Tri-Fin Eel Worms and Alou Eels may also deliver. Think small, think red and think black, as these are chosen to work slowly and steadily near bottom. These skinny lures are favored by many of the jetty's daytime regulars. Others only have confidence in the swimming minnow type plugs—Rebels, Red Fins, Hellcats, and so on. A number of fair-sized strippers fall for these near the deep end of the breakwater as the tide bottoms out—even at midday. Cast for cast, however, bucktails seem best. Reserve the plugs until sunset.

Rigged with droppers, these plugs come into their own as the last rays of daylight fade into darkness. Rough water and winds very often dictate the use of bigger versions, about seven inches. This size is easier to cast, and the waves don't toss them about as readily as the small ones. They catch fish, too. More fish, though, seem to be fooled by plugs of about five inches. So, it pays to try them, at least for a few casts, even when they don't get out very far or their action is impaired by rough water. When the tide is moving at top speed, near the end of the jetty—especially on the inlet side—it pays to try Hellcats and the one ounce Needlefish plugs. At slack tide, on calm nights, metal lipped swimmers, such as the smaller Danny plugs or Atom Jr. sometimes draw strikes from big fish. Some anglers prepare for the unexpected presence of very rough conditions by carrying along a couple of darters, bottle plugs, and painted tins, but it's usually impossible to remain perched on the jetty under such conditions anyway. This is not to say that such lures will not take fish here. They do. But the fake minnows do consistently better.

The general case that fishing in or near an inlet is best on a falling tide also applies here. However, I've seen many fish taken during the rise, especially in really churning water on the ocean side of the jetty. The tip and inlet side, too, produce on the rise, when a southwest breeze is piling forage against the rocks. On either tide casts should be made upcurrent and the plug allowed to swing all the way around close to the rocks. When enough water is present, many fish seem to lurk right up against them.

A couple of years ago it was possible to fish from the jetty by starting on its ocean side and cast and climb out to the end. The inlet side could then be worked on the way back, all the way to a spot called the "radio shack" (so named for obvious reasons to anyone who has visited the area). But the fickle seas have not only filled "the pocket" with sand, the inlet side has also been built up—to the point where casters wade out along a shelf with the jetty behind them. Last season, therefore, those dedicated to fishing from rocks attractive to predators were restricted to a relatively short area near the breakwater's seaward end. At this writing, the Army Corps of Engineers is said to be planning one of its periodic dredgings of the navigation channel through the inlet. With the right conditions, the sand piled against the rocks may tumble toward the channel, and fishing at the breakwater should improve somewhat for a few seasons.

For me, the filling in of this area last season was, in part, a blessing. I felt less compelled to risk life and limb on the rocks, and without the burden of creepers and a long gaff, more time was spent fishing comfortably in the inlet.

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TRICKS WITH TUBES AND TUBE RIGS

by Russ Wilson

There is a lot more to scoring with multi-tube rigs than just towing them around in your wake. Proper rigging is the key to success.

Many otherwise "sharp" fishermen do not rack up big scores when using the multi-armed tube rigs or when trolling a single tube and the main reason for this lack of success is, in my opinion due to the improper rigging of these very productive lures.

Umbrella, Gorilla or Coathanger rigs were originally designed to imitate a small group of sand eels that were fleeing from the larger predators. The Gorilla rig, which has six arms and carries 13 lures is probably the hardest rig to use effectively. Some fishermen will not even bother to use this type rig because of the work involved in getting it into the water without having the lures tangle.

I will use the Gorilla if I must, but if at all possible will use the Umbrella which has but four arms and carries only five or nine lures. It is definitely easier to get into the water and from what we've noted through the years, it is just as effective under most situations as the cumbersome six arm rigs.

Umbrella rigs come in several

sizes. The standard rig has a spread of about two feet from point to point. The Mini-rig, which I prefer when seeking striped bass or bluefish is about half the size of a full blown rig and is just as productive when used correctly.

We generally troll the mini rig with a shot of 150 feet of 40 pound test wire line to carry it down approximately 20 feet. Bass and blues can normally be found feeding at this level, but if they are deeper we will add trolling drails in front of the rig to take it down to the fish eye level. Each four ounce drail will carry the rig down five feet. If you read fish on the recorder at 30 feet you know you must add at least eight ounces of drail to bring your lures past the fish.

A Coathanger rig has two arms and is rigged with three or five lures, depending on your own personal choice. I happen to like the three lure setup because I do a lot of trolling for blues and even when dragging only three lures I will catch fish two or three at a time. With five lures

working you could catch five fish and that's just too much work for this worn-out writer to handle.

Our umbrella rigs are likewise set up with only three lures that carry hooks. The remaining tubes serve only as teasers and do not have hooks. As a rule we rig the dropper and two of the outside arms with slightly longer tubes rigged on #10 Limerick hooks. I've yet to hook a fish these hooks will not tame.

On the Gorilla, which can take 13 lures, you must use a tad of common sense. Who in their right mind wants to crank in a half dozen bluefish? It is a definite possibility when using hooks in each of the lures! I'd much rather have only a few armed lures and the remainder serving as fish attractors. As a rule we rig the full size Gorilla with two outside droppers (12 to 18 inches back on 80 lb. test clear mono) with short tubes that are rigged with the big Limerick hooks, two others on slightly shorter droppers also with the 10/0 hooks and the remaining tubes serve only as teasers. This is our standard striped bass rig and it sees a lot of use in the late fall when bass are prowling the waters of Sandy Hook/Raritan Bay. Many of these late run stripers will be sub-legal or will just reach the minimum size. You can easily overpower them with heavy rods, wire line and a huge Gorilla rig sporting a dozen individual lures.

Bluefish will normally attack just about anything that moves, but does not eat them first. This means you do not have to exercise too much finesse when seeking the choppers. But, if you do jazz up the lures, your overall success will certainly reflect the extra care you use in presentation. I like to rig my tubes with a short section of Bead Chain. The feeling here is that the addition of a piece of Bead Chain will allow the lure a more free spinning action and will, in turn, bring more strikes.

Stripers do not like a fast spinning tube and to be a success at trolling tube rigs for stripers you must learn how to tame the frantic action of the lures. I will normally rig tubes for stripers with only a one inch section of Bead Chain or will simply use a barrel swivel to give the lure a chance to work slowly as it is trolled through



This striper hit a tube rig which had all dark tubes. On a very overcast day the dark colors work best.

likely looking areas.

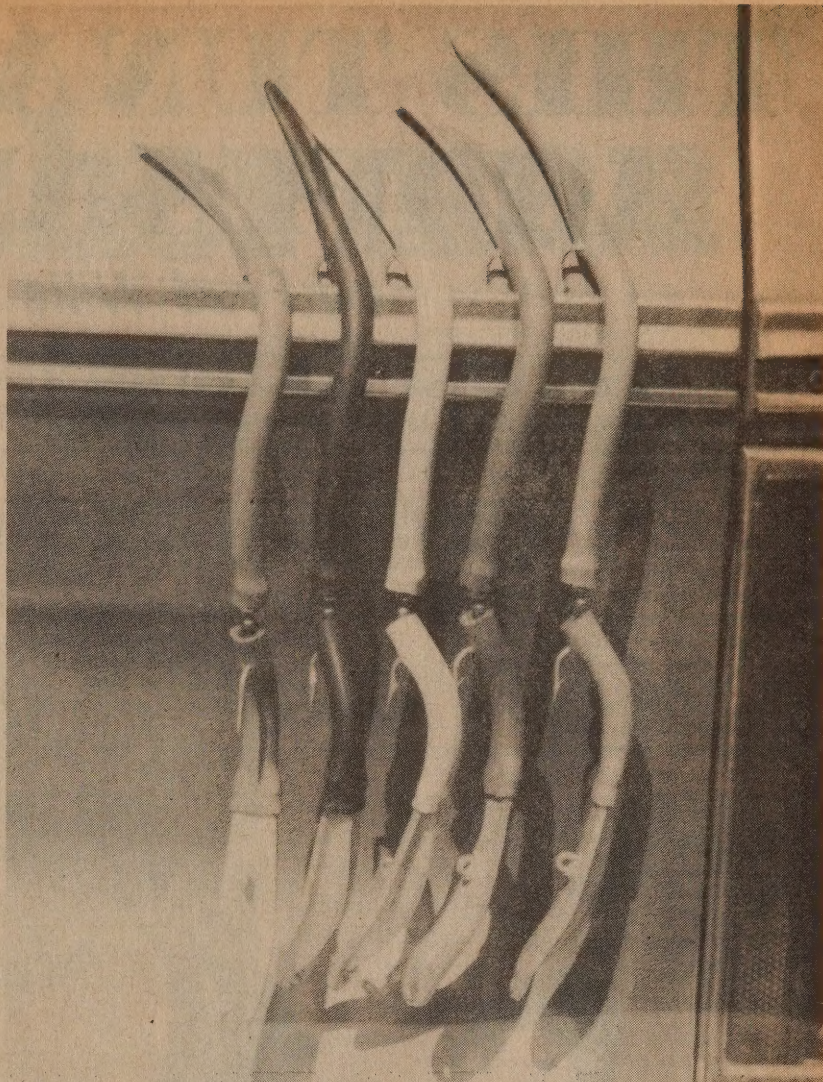
Weakfish also prefer a slowly worked lure. You can really slow down the engine, keep lures rigged on swivels and still scare more weakfish than you will catch. It happens and there is no set way to combat the situation. One trick that does often help, however, is to rig the outside arms of the Coathanger or Umbrella with plastic lures. I've enjoyed good success when using the RedGill, Burke eel, Tom Mann Jelly Worms or other plastic imitations which resemble small baitfish or sand eels. Unfortunately, if there are bluefish present, you are going to spend a lot of time replacing lures that are bitten in half or maimed beyond recognition.

Color can often be critical. The time proven rule of light lures on bright days and dark colors when the day is overcast is a good rule of thumb to follow. Stripers, in particular, will show a definite preference for dark colors on cloudy or rainy days. Blues are not as particular, but will take the bright colors more quickly when the sun is high. Weakfish are basically afternoon feeders and will be down deep in the water, so you must sort of "Match the Hatch" when seeking these good to eat fish.

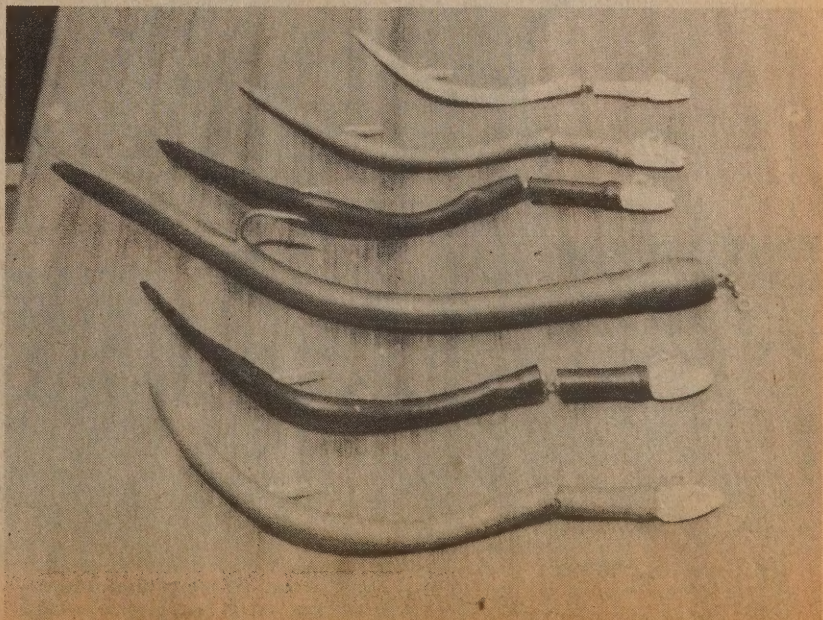
Tube length is also important. You don't want to use eight inch tubes when the prevailing bait source is composed of tiny sand eels measuring no more than three or four inches and by the same token, you won't rig the tiny tubes when the game fish are blasting into larger baits such as anchovies, big sand eels or large spearing.

Bluefish will eat anything that swims including their own, and weakfish or stripers if the occasion should present itself. This is a common sight among diamond jig fishermen who often bring a weakie to the boat that's been neatly chopped in half by a kill-crazed blue. When the choppers are in a mood to eat you don't have to go to extremes to fill the fish box. Even a rank amateur can load the boat during these too brief occasions. But, when the fishing is tough it is the angler who takes care in lure presentation and presentation who is going to get rave notices.

The addition of a little Bead Chain will help your cause. Also worth noting is the color variations which are certainly important to successful tube rig trolling. And, finally, watch the lures as you drop them into the water. Keep the boat at your normal trolling speed and check to make sure the tubes are turning properly. If they look right, chances are they will catch. But, if they are not giving off a constant spinning motion you are not likely to catch many fish. It is the little things that make the difference between being a duffer and coming in with eye-popping catches. Tube rigs are just one additional item to add to your arsenal of lures, but without them you might be missing out on some of the finest fishing the North Atlantic Seaboard has to offer.



Spider Jointed Squid Eel is very effective when used as a dropper on umbrella, gorilla or coat hanger rigs.



Lancer type lures are extremely productive when seeking bass, blues or weakfish.

THIS TUNA WAS A LIFESAVER

by Fred Wills

Here's a tuna story with a real twist. It originally appeared in *The Graphic* in the author's Bay Shore Tuna Club column.

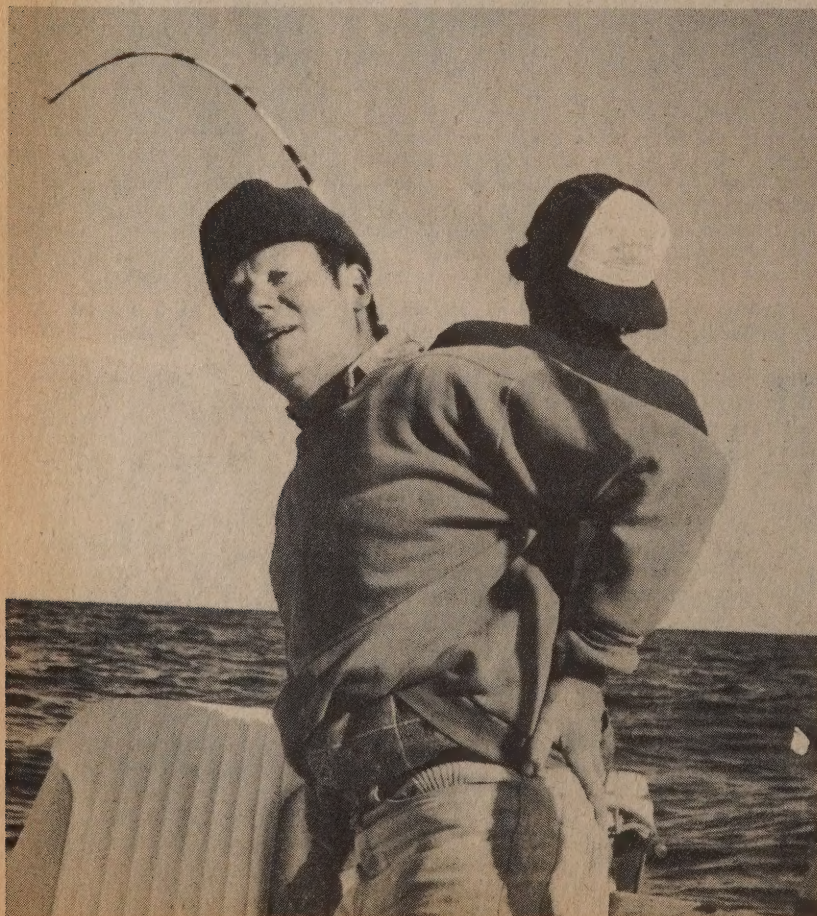
The giant bluefin tuna can best be described as the monarch of the big game of the sea. They are to anglers what elephants, lions and grizzly bears are to the hunter. Our column this week involves one of these creatures and several of our members, but with an outcome that will surprise even the most seasoned angler. The bluefin has a reputation for being a man-killer, not that he is about to devour you like a great white shark or any of his cousins, but

because of his brute strength and power; he is no doubt the heavy-weight of the sea.

Captain Dick Bohner, Walter Kuszelewicz, Peter Nowinski and Wally Weitsen boarded the "Reet-D" and headed out to do some tuna trolling. They were quite a distance offshore when they noticed a great commotion in the water ahead of them. They approached cautiously and noticed it was a school of dolphin that were thrashing about wildly and leaping

out of the water. Being seasoned anglers, they knew there was something under these dolphin that caused them to go into the frenzied antics. Immediately, the rigs were put overboard and they started trolling the area. "Boinnnggg" was all they heard and they saw the arc of one of the rods, which was losing line fast. They scurried to clear the gunnels of the other rods and prepared to do battle with whatever had taken their offering. Wally, being the senior angler, was chosen to be the first in the chair. After about one hour and twenty minutes of a see-saw battle, Wally asked to be relieved of his turn on the rod. It was then the others noticed the pained expression on Wally's face. The thoughts ran rampant as to what have they done to this man. The quiet settled over the boat like a pea soup fog. They managed to boat the fish, which was a bluefin tuna topping the scales at 121 pounds.

Now, normally when Dick went down to his boat he would always see Wally, as Wally lived across the canal from where Dick berths his boat, but Wally disappeared from sight. After about three months Dick was at his boat one day preparing to do a day's fishing, when he heard a loud "Hello Dick." It was Wally. Before Dick could question Wally on his whereabouts, Wally interjected, "You know that bluefin tuna saved my life." Dick was stunned; he replied, "How's that?" Wally then explained he felt extreme pain in the abdominal area while fighting the fish and thought he had developed a hernia. He immediately went to the doctor where all tests for hernia proved negative. The doctor, being a thorough man, made further tests and it developed that Wally had polyps on his lower intestine. He was hospitalized and surgery performed to remove about one foot of the infected intestine with the polyps, which were found to be malignant. The doctor explained that with the robust activity of fighting the fish he probably aggravated the condition to cause the pain, which normally would have gone unnoticed until it was in an advanced state. So when you hear people refer to the bluefin tuna as a man-killer, just remember this story and smile.



Oh My Aching Back! Fighting a big bluefin tuna standing up is no picnic. While it may have saved the life of Wally Weitsen, Ed Miller (foreground) and Captain Joe Ferrara would have been hard put to find any solace in Wally's story. The pair spent nearly three hours on this fish before breaking it off.



THE

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**TUNA & SHARKS
OFFSHORE**

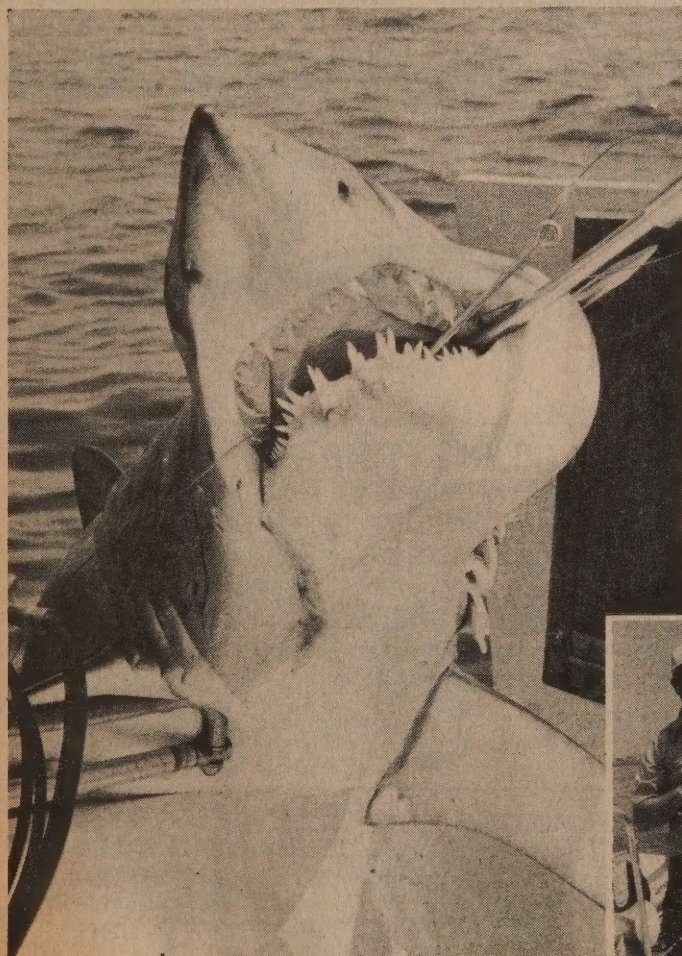
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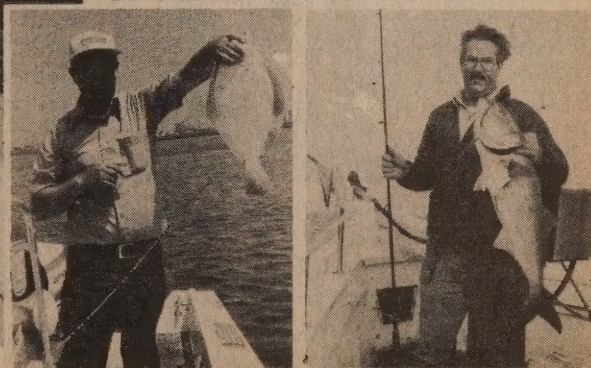
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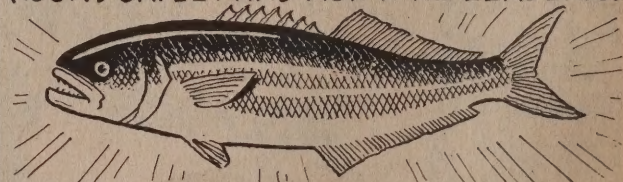
CONNECTICUT & N.Y. SHORE SPOTS
WHERE FALL BLUES OFTEN **(MILFORD)**
COME IN CLOSE TO SHORE. **(HOUSATONIC R.)**

MILFORD - HOUSATONIC
RIVER MILE ABOVE THRUWAY
AT CURTEN'S GRAVEL PIT.

(SAUGATUCK R.)
STRATFORD - AT MOUTH
OF HOUSATONIC RIVER

STAMFORD **CONN.**
FAIRFIELD - SHOAL PT.
WESTPORT - COMPO B'CH.
MOUTH OF SAUGATUCK R.
NORWALK - OFF WEED BEACH.
STAMFORD - AT COVE ISL. PARK.
GREENWICH - FISH TODD'S PT. AT
END OF STEAMBOAT RD.
RYE - THERE IS AN OPEN FISHING
AREA NEAR END OF MILTON PT.
MAMARONECK - BLUES COME INTO HARBOR
HERE ADJACENT TO ROUTE 1.

BLUEFISH HAVE SHARP TEETH AND
POWERFUL JAWS. USE PLIERS TO REMOVE
HOOKS SAFELY AND FISH WIRE LEADERS.



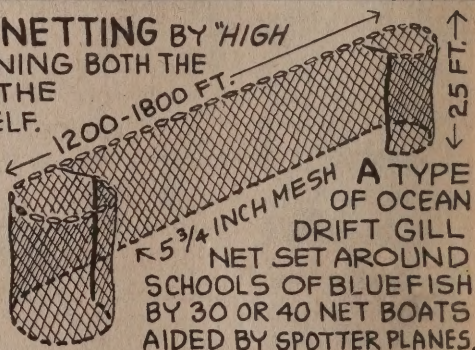
- A - HOT SPOT FOR BUNKER CHUMMING.**
- B - TROLLING SPOONS AND UMBRELLAS.**
- C - ROMER SHOAL & FLYNN'S KNOLL FOR**
JIGGING AND BAIT FISHING
- D - TROLLING BETWEEN SHIP LANES.**
- E - EARLY AM SURF CASTING.**
- = SHIPPING LANES & CHANNELS.**

THE DECLINE
OF BASS AND
BLUEFIN TUNA
MAKES BLUEFISH
THE PRIME
SPECIES LEFT
TO RECREA-
TIONAL FISH-
ERMAN WHO
TAKE 9 OUT
OF 10 BLUES
CAUGHT.

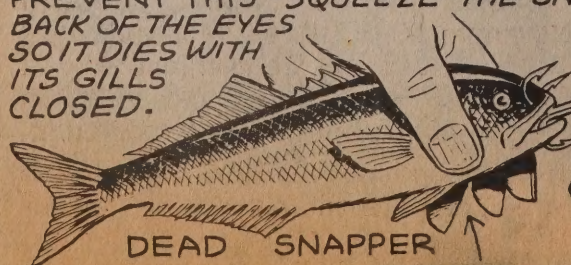


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SNAPPERS SOMETIMES DIE WITH THEIR MOUTHS
OPEN AND GILLS SPREAD WIDE SO THAT THEY TWIST
THE LINE WHEN USED AS TROLLING BAIT. TO
PREVENT THIS - **SQUEEZE THE SNAPPER**
BACK OF THE EYES
SO IT DIES WITH
ITS GILLS
CLOSED.



DEAD SNAPPER

LIVE LINING SNAPPER
BLUES FOR BIG FALL WEAK-
FISH AND DOORMAT FLUKE
WITH NO. 2 TREBLE HOOK
TIED DIRECTLY TO LINE.



LIVE SNAPPER

BY FRED
GUARDINEER



THE

Fisherman

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Weakfish	10
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Tuna	200
Mako Shark	200
White Marlin	60
Swordfish	100
Sea Bass	4
Brown Trout	3
Brook Trout	2
Rainbow Trout	2
Largemouth Bass	4

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East End REPORT

with Mrs. Lorry Mangan

Offshore, tuna of all sizes, have become reliable in all regular tuna grounds. Inshore, best action is in bluefish with action both day and night. Fluking is disappointing in the Montauk area, however, action at Gardiner's and off Promised Land remains steady. Porgy action is unreliable, however there were large catches of humpbacks in the Peconics over the weekend. Lots of school weaks in Noyac Bay. Snappers all over. Rumors of striped bass.

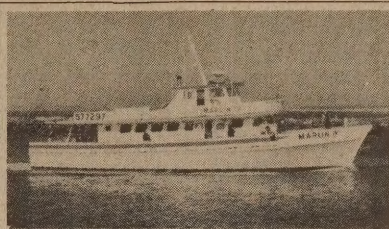
MONTAUK

Lots of tuna action, reported by **Captain's Cove Marina**, Ron Onorato with a 703 lb. Giant on Thursday. I fished with Capt. Greg Beacher on the charter boat **Dawn** on Wednesday, where we found giant tuna with the fleet fishing south of the Point. Unfortunately, my fish was lost after a half hour battle (frayed line-broke off). However we did bring in a 675 lb. giant fought by Beth Clark. Beth, originally from Sorrento Maine, is the alternate mate on the **Dawn** and has brought six giant tuna to 755 lbs. to gaff. Capt. Beacher has so far since June, caught 26 giants, the largest this year 938 lbs., as well as over 50 bluefin over 150 lbs. As we go to press, an 802 lb. giant was taken by angler Irvar Mitchell on Saturday on the **Dawn**. Capt. Beacher reported



This 339 lb. mako was the second place winner in the M.C.A.'s Shark Tourney held back in July. It was caught aboard the charter boat, "King Wayne."

MONTAUK



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acres and acres of school tuna on Sunday with equal action on all the regular tuna grounds.

Great tuna action was spoken of at **Montauk Marine Basin**: Wally Oakland was hot on Saturday with a 580 lb. giant on the Sea Doll and equally hot again on Sunday with a fish of 624 lbs. The Magician did well on Saturday and Sunday, with giants of 732 lbs. and 600 lbs. Inshore, bluefish are taking herring fished with drails. Although not as many as expected, a few nice size fluke were brought in over the weekend. Offshore, a few bonito are mixed with school tuna. Several dolphin have been taken. A couple of small mako's were caught over the weekend. The Annual Full Moon Bass Tournament will start at noon Friday, October 5th, end Monday, October 8th at the **Montauk Marine Basin**. Early entries will receive a free fillet knife (enter by September 15th, entry fee \$20.)

Maureen at **Gone Fishing Marina** claims that although fluking has been slow on the south side, she did see a 10½ lb. doormat taken on the south side in deep water, 50-70 feet. Sea robins have been a problem! They seem to have settled in both porgy and fluke grounds. Jim Brocard, fishing Washington Shoals caught an 8 lb. blackfish over the weekend on his boat "J-B". Maureen verified rumors of stripped bass during the full moon.

A potential world's record bluefin tuna was brought into **Montauk Marine Basin** by Manhattan resident Steve Sloan for a 119 lb. bluefin caught on 20 lb. test line, after a 1 hour 40 minute fight. Steve who currently holds 31 IGFA world records has another record pending: an 83½ lb. mako, taken on 4 lb. test line.

Maude James of Astoria, NY caught 40 porgies to three pounds on her first trip on the **Flying Cloud**, fishing Gardiner's Island. Ruth McGrueder is \$90 richer since winning the pool with a 6½ lb. blackfish. Mount Holly Imperial Anglers fished on Sunday. Tom Purham, the President of the club, stated that they will all had a great time and caught plenty of fish. Capt. Dusty Dorzbacher of the **Little Bear**, invites you to come on down and catch your dinner!

Captl Paul Forsberg of the **Viking**, calls Cox's Ledge codfishing very good with 8-15 fish per angler average. Over the weekend Alexander Mading of the Bronx won the pool with a 44 lb. cod. Noman's Land porgies are excellent with 90 percent of the catch in the large and jumbo category and over 100 fish high hook each day. Night bluefishing at Cartrite a 45 minute ride from the dock, is so good that the boats are coming home early, so many fish are caught. Fluke were very good Sunday afternoon. The **Starship** will now make two fluke trips on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Henry at **Uihlein's Boat Rentals** remarked that the action has been in bluefish over the weekend with 5-8 lb.

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Capt. Ken Malone

blues moving into outer Shagwong. Porgies are once again at Great Eastern, however, an unbelievable amount of sea robins and skates have moved into the area. Tony Mitchell, on a rental boat, fished the south side for a few fluke to 6 lbs., and then loaded up with blues. Snappers are great, and getting larger.

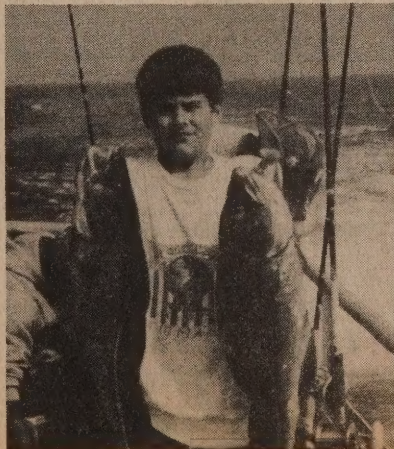
Capt. Phil Lewis did well on the **Adios** this week. On Monday a group from J & H Plumbing caught a 650

giant tuna. On Wednesday, Sal Ciulla and his group landed 4 bluefins in the 100 lb. range with 3 yellowfin. Thursday, the same group caught a giant of 552 lbs. On Friday, a group which included Ken Moran of the N.Y. Post felt the frustration of losing a big fish at boatside. Saturday, expert mating by Skip, saved a 585 lb. fish, tangled in an anchor line for Harold Elsis of Graphic Word.

Julie III fished inshore with good results. Friday's charter with Brian Williams of Tapan, NJ, resulted in 322 porgies and 5 sea bass, the largest 3½ pounds. On Saturday, Capt. Grandinetti combined 52 bluefish in the 6-15 lb. range, with porgies, 286 fish to 3 lbs. with Artie Wherman from Franklin Square.

Capt. Steve Mauss found unbelievable bluefishing just a short boat ride on the **Kraken II** to Cartrite with Nelson Roberts. The group had all the blues they wanted by 9 am, then settled in to fluke fish. Capt. Mauss also caught some nice sea bass fishing outer Shagwong along with lots of small porgies. **Kraken II** is reserving for fall blackfish and sea bass. See ad for details.

The **Montauk** enjoyed a good fishing trip on Labor Day with Mark Massare, resulting in 9 yellowfin from 40 to 83 lbs, and 10 bluefin tuna from 40 to 109 lbs. On Sunday, a group lead by Frank Scerbo jigged and baited 19 tuna from 25-45 lbs. All tuna fishing



A recent trip to Coxes Ledge aboard the "Viking Star" produced 14 cod, including the two in the photo, for Bob Kessler, Jr.

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The Talt party from New Rochelle had a banner day aboard the Montauk charter boat, "Adios." Chumming south of Block Island produced five bluefin tuna and a white marlin.

was south of the Point. Capt. Mike Albronde remarked that bluefishing at Cartrite is the best in years, with all you want!

Capt. Mike Benivengna, Jr. experienced fantastic bluefishing with Frank Costa on Friday, and Mike Burke on Saturday on the **Pronto**. Some small tuna were taken as well on Friday, using squid bait and butterfish at the Butterfish Hole.

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SOUTH FORK

Porgy action on the **Wilhelric** is still up and down according to Capt. Artie Lach. However Friday and Saturday were excellent; on Friday, 'Jack from the Bronx' was high hook with 202 porgies, while Saturay saw sea bass to 2½ pounds mixed with many porgies. Porgy size varies from place to place and day to day. Capt. Lach will start blackfishing Tuesday or Wednesday on September 18 and will make a special trip to Mad Dog Reef the first day that conditions are right.

Chris Salb from **Bayview Fishing Station**, weighed a fluke of 5 pounds 11 ounces for Danny Herman, the largest of 50 fluke caught at Cartwright Island. Frank Schiovani reported some bass action around, mesure for shorts. Porgies, although plentiful, are of the small kind. However, flounder have started to show under the bridge in Sag Harbor Cove.

Robert Murphy Sr. and Jr. of Ronkonkoma fished with Bill Falls and Mike Stronmberg on the boat **One-On**, berthed at **Noyac Marina**. The group used squid and small live snappers fished the Monestary and Long Beach on both tides on Satur-

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NELSON BRYANT, NEW YORK TIMES

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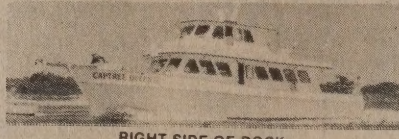
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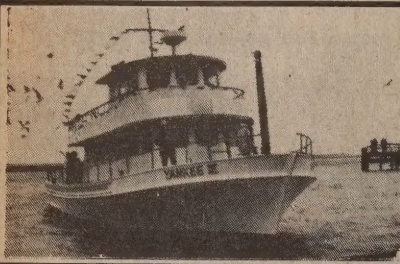
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day, catching 20 fluke (kept 12) 15 weakfish (schoolies) and 16 humpback porgies. On Sunday, Jim Walker and Dave Buon of Southampton caught 16 weaks and 6 fluke along with a five gallon pail of humpback porgies. The pair fished on a rental skiff, using a hi-low rig baited with squid and sandworms. Helen has heard rumors of striped bass—try the South Ferry area of Shelter Island. Weakfish are hitting every morning, early. Fluke remain good. On Sunday, a group of four persons hit the porgy jackpot, 600 porgies fishing the buoy 16 area.

Thom Speckenback has heard of very good weakfish action near Cherry Harbor. Fluke from 2-7 pounds were caught off Promised Land over the weekend and brought into **Speck's Bait and Tackle in Southampton**. Blackfish and sea bass have become more plentiful from the Shinnecock Jetty. Judging by the amount of live eels sold over the weekend, some striped bass must have been caught. The feeling is that the fish are probably in Montauk or Plum Gut.

Because we had heard of large bass (to 47 pounds) taken at Plum Gut Friday night, Capt. Tony Loperfido, Harold Walters and I joined Capt. Pete Izzo on the **Bo-Anne** on Saturday night to drift live eels. It was a typical case of you should have been here yesterday, since all we caught was one bluefish! Earlier in the day we had good luck on Capt. Tony 'Lo' on the Fishalot: Harold Walters, Jim Bogart, Bo and I kept 38 fluke from 15 inches to nearly 5 pounds, fishing Gardners.

Capt. Ken Malone finds the off-shore wrecks still producing sea bass in the 1½ to 2½ pound range with blackfish in greater numbers. Porgies and sea flounder to 2½ pounds round off the catch on the **Jenny Rose**. On Saturday Steve Lowenthal of Hicksville topped off a cooler of fish with a 5½ pound pollock to take the pool. Capt. Ken is now fishing off-shore on Wednesdays and Saturdays with Wednesdays having the least crowds. The Peconics are alive with fish: lots of small to medium porgies, small blackfish with weakfish and snapper blues to one pound. On Sunday, Vinnie Croce of E. Islip was high hook with a 5 gallon bucket of porgies and blackfish with the pool winner a two pound weakfish.

The **Jenny Rose** had a fifty cent fluke derby this summer, with 300 entries. Ralph Reynolds of Port Chester took first place and \$75 with a 5 pound fluke. Second place, \$45 was won by Rick D'Aquila of Lake Ronkonkoma with a fluke of 4 pounds, 13 ounces. Maria Raycroft of Medford's 4 pound, 7½ ounce fish was worth \$30 in third place.

Capt. Don Van De Water enjoyed shark fishing on the **Dutch Treat** on Labor Day. A group from Hartcorn Plumbing fishing off Shinnecock boated a 55 pound mako. At one point the party had a very large mako on, which took a few jumps before break-

CAPTREE

TARYN-ANN

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ing off. On Wednesday and Thursday, Kenny Sorenson of New Jersey chartered the Dutch Treat for a two day tuna trip. A tuna, later weighed at 800 pounds, was hooked at nearly noon on Thursday on 130 lb. test line and was fought for over 8 hours with Kenny on the rod the entire time.

A 542 pound mako was caught Sunday on the Scatt 3 fishing in 150 feet of water out of Shinnecock according to Joey of **Altenkirch & Son in Hampton Bays**. Capt. Bob reported several large makos hooked and lost before their trophy was on. Dolphin to 31 pounds were caught at 40 fathoms. Inshore, nice snappers and blues are all over. Fluke are still steady in the Shinnecock Canal and through the bay, with the largest weighed this week at 7 pounds. Rumors of bass, mostly shorts, at the Ponquogue Bridge.

The use of tins from the beach for bass and blues will be featured on Fishing Forecast this week: Friday at 6PM, Saturday 5PM, Brookhaven Cable, Channel 6. This segment was videotaped at a recent meeting of the Lady Reelers, and features Gary Hall, president of Sonshine Fishing Tackle Co.

South Shore REPORT with Fred Golofaro

Blackfish have entered the picture and flounder have made their first appearance in this area recently. Fluke fishing while still excellent should witness a movement of fish towards the inlets. Bigger blues seem to have taken control of the Patchogue Grounds and tuna trolling dropped off considerably. All are signs that fall is close at hand and along with it some of the best fishing of the year.

MORICHES BAY & INLET

Bluefish have been trolled regularly inside Moriches Inlet. Fish also just outside the inlet. Bigger blues up to 16 pounds are anywhere from 40 feet of water on out where they are being taken by trollers and jiggers. Inside the bay, fluke remain the main attraction but there are some sea bass mixing in with them. Blackfish are on the rocks at the inlet and snappers are all over the bay.

Larry Dallaire of **L & M Marine** spoke of lots of fluke including loads of shorts in the Elbow and at West Cut with incoming water providing the best action with spearing and squid or smelt working best in the bait department. Lots of small sea bass are being taken on the fluke baits and the bay is paved with snappers. Larry said that we can look for fluke fishing to keep its edge right through the end of the month.

GREAT SOUTH BAY/ FIRE ISLAND INLET

"Plenty of 2-4 lb. weaks in mid-bay from Patchogue to Heckscher" reported Paul Graniello of **J & J Tackle** in Patchogue. Squid strips are taking

the weaks and a few nice kingfish as well. A few small weaks were taken from the Patchogue River on live snappers. Speaking of snappers, there are plenty of them at all of the docks in the area. Also a few large crabs finally showing up. Sal Tentecost and P T O'Shaughnessy wire lined 45 blues in the 10-15 lb. range on umbrellas Saturday. They fished 3-4 miles south of Moriches Inlet. Big blues are being jigged in the same area with smaller fish to 5 lbs. located right outside and inside Moriches Inlet. The Inlet produced 20 nice keeper fluke to 3½ lbs., 6 blackfish, and a mess of snappers for Ken Meserole, Ken Daniels, and Tom Potter on Saturday. The same area surrendered an 11½ lb. weak for Pete Miglionico before dawn on Monday. It fell for a live blackfish.

"All the fluke you want but nearly all shorts." so said Al Colban of **J & R Sport Center** in Oakdale. The fish are from the Lighthouse to the RM Bridge. Buoy 15 near East Channel has a mixture of weaks, seabass, and porgies while Kismet Reef is well supplied with blackfish. Flounder are now in the Sore Thumb Pocket and theres been some good sea bass and porgy action on the F.I. Ocean Reef. Blowfish are in West Channel on squid strips and there are still plenty of snappers around. On the freshwater scene, Greg Dixon checked in a 5 lb. largemouth taken locally while Ed Kohler nailed a 3 lb. brown trout in Connetquot State Park.

"Hordes of short fluke from the Lighthouse to the inlet, with more keepers being taken back in the bay in Snakehill and Dickerson Channels." This is from Carl Miller of **Smokey's Tackle Shop** in Bay Shore. West Channel had a good shot of 2-4 lb. weaks on the weekend and there has been good action with porgies and sea bass here as well. Fiddler and green crabs accounted for some super blackfishing on Kismet Reef in recent days and if you fish squid, count on plenty of 1-1½ lb. sea bass. Flood tide has been the key. Carl reported witnessing the unusual occurrence of 6-8 lb. blues raiding a school of bunker inside the mouth of the Connetquot River. There have been plenty of snappers and a few small weaks in the River. Bay Shore Marina has been inundated with porgies. Worms turn the trick on these fish. Outside the inlet, plenty of blues from 40' of water on out south of the Lighthouse for jiggers and trollers. Bonito, false albacore, and skipjacks are in 80' of water for trollers using red and white feathers. Sixty six degree water temp 30 miles off the beach caused tuna fishing to decline dramatically. The west wall of the Canyon did produce a few yellowfins however. Carl reminded that he is well stocked with live eels for those looking for them.

Captree's charter and open boat fleet continued to enjoyed consistently good action with fluke and blues this past week.



Eight-year-old Jason Flaum was a recent pool winner aboard the open boat "Miss Babylon," with this 5 lb. summer flattie.

High Tide Tables

How to use tide tables: To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion table. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that area station above. Example: Shinnecock Inlet . . . -0 50 is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." -0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

DAY	SANDY HOOK		BREAKWATER HARBOR		NEW YORK		NEW LONDON		WILLETS POINT		BRIDGE-PORT		NEWPORT		DATE
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	
THURS.	10:25	10:40	11:10	11:30	11:05	11:10	—	12:00	1:30	1:35	1:30	1:50	10:25	10:40	9/13
FRI.	10:55	11:15	11:50	12:05	11:35	11:35	12:15	12:35	2:00	2:10	2:05	2:25	11:05	11:20	9/14
SAT.	11:30	11:50	—	12:30	—	12:05	1:00	1:15	2:35	2:50	2:45	3:05	11:45	12:00	9/15
SUN.	—	12:15	12:50	1:15	12:10	12:45	1:40	2:00	3:15	3:30	3:20	3:45	—	12:30	9/16
MON.	12:40	1:00	1:35	2:05	12:55	1:30	2:30	2:50	4:05	4:20	4:15	4:35	12:50	1:25	9/17
TUES.	1:35	2:00	2:30	3:00	1:50	2:25	3:35	3:50	5:00	5:20	5:15	5:35	1:55	2:25	9/18
WED.	2:40	3:05	3:30	4:05	2:55	3:35	4:40	4:55	6:00	6:20	6:15	6:40	3:00	3:30	9/19
THURS.	3:55	4:15	4:40	5:10	4:20	4:55	5:45	6:00	7:05	7:30	7:25	7:45	4:05	4:30	9/20

On Sandy Hook		Beach Channel Bridge		Lyme, highway bridge		Sunrise/Sunset	
STATEN ISLAND		+0 27		Essex		DAY / DATE:	
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS		-0 01		East Haddam		THU. 9/13	
Red Bank, Navesink River		+1 48		Higganum Creek		FRI. 9/14	
Long Branch		-0 34				SAT. 9/15	
SHARK RIVER INLET		-0 18				SUN. 9/16	
Shark River Basin		+0 27				MON. 9/17	
MANASQUAN INLET		-0 12				TUE. 9/18	
Seaside Park		-0 33				WED. 9/19	
Mantoloking bridge		+5 34					
TOMS RIVER		+4 37					
Waretown		+2 33					
BARNEGAT LIGHT		-0 20					
Manahawkin Bridge		+2 33					
Beach Haven		+1 47					
LITTLE EGG INLET		-0 01					
Seven Islands		+0 12					
Graveling Point		+1 05					
Mullica River		+1 55					
Grassy Bay		+1 08					
ABSECON INLET		+0 14					
Atlantic City Pier		-0 26					
Great Egg Harbor Inlet		+0 12					
GREAT EGG HARBOR		+0 44					
CORSON INLET		+0 09					
TOWNSENDS INLET		+0 06					
HEREFORD INLET		+0 02					
Grassy Sound Bridge		+0 45					
Cape May Harbor		-0 02					
Rehoboth Beach		-0 07					
INDIAN RIVER INLET		+0 41					
SHINNECOCK INLET		-0 50					
Shinnecock Bay		+1 25					
East Quogue		+2 45					
Shinnecock Canal		+1 18					
Indian Reservation		+3 05					
MORICHES INLET		-0 56					
Smith's Point		+3 28					
Hart's Cove		+1 30					
Pontunk Point		+3 35					
Mastic Beach		+3 28					
FIRE ISLAND INLET		-0 38					
Democrat Point		-0 38					
Coast Guard Station		-0 19					
Fire Island Light		+0 47					
GREAT SOUTH BAY							
Sayville (Brown Creek)		+3 39					
Heckscher State Park		+3 20					
Bay Shore		+2 23					
Babylon		+2 12					
Amityville		+2 21					
JONES INLET		-0 19					
Zachs Bay		+1 25					
Seaford Harbor		+2 05					
Freeport Creek		+0 34					
E. ROCKAWAY INLET		-0 06					
Long Beach Bridge		+0 19					
ROCKAWAY INLET		0 00					

BAYSHORE

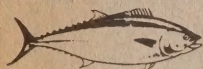
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Pat Scida of Oceanside decked
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half day trip aboard the Free-
port open boat, "Capt. Lou V."

Capt. Gordon Roman of the **Captree Queen II** spoke of an excellent weekend with the fluke. Fares averaged 8-12 keepers apiece and returned many shorts. Most of his fishing is being done near the lighthouse and opposite Captree Overlook. Jumbo blues appear to have settled in on Patchogue. After mixing in with smaller fish during the week, 12-16 pound jumbos dominated on Saturday night. Other boats repeated with big fish on Sunday night. How many you catch depends on your stamina.

Capt. Charlie Kennedy of the **Capt. Joseph II** dittoed Gordon's report concerning both fluke and blues. Each have been light, making for some of the best fishing of the year.

Capt. George Tweedy of the **Capt. Scotty 3** has been hammering away at the blues day and night. Daytime action is all jigs while nights have been chum and bait. Fish range anywhere from 2-16 pounds depending on the day but most trips have been dominated by larger fish. Fishing is being done SE of the inlet from 40' of water on out to the Patchogue Grounds.

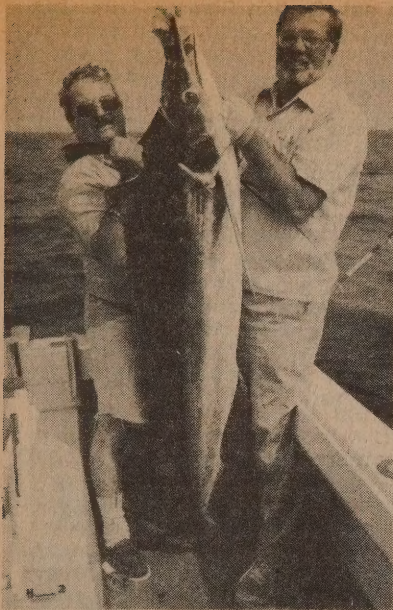
Aboard the charter boat **Lois Ann** on Sunday, a group of Coop City anglers headed by Luigi Raccanelli bagged 600 sea bass ranging from 1¼ to 3 pounds, two dozen blackfish, some porgies and a few fluke. One of the fluke, a 5.3 pounder copped the pool for an angler by the name of Stanley. Twenty nine members fished aboard the boat according to Capt. Dennis Frederick. Dennis fished one of his favorite ocean wrecks.

Aboard the charter boat **Dixie**, Capt. Ed Laske fished the Patchogue Grounds on both Saturday and Sunday. A group headed by Mike Brennan on Saturday and a group from Bekatel Corp. on Sunday loaded up with blues to 15 pounds on diamond jigs. Sunday's pool winner was an 18 pound albacore.

Capt. John Cuzzo of the **Captree** charter boat **Afterglo** reported a box full of blues to 15 pounds trolled on umbrella rigs for the Don Strauch party on Saturday. Fishing was done south of Cherry Grove between 60 and 90 feet of water.

Aboard the open boat **Miss Captree** Capt. Carl Passero spoke of continued excellent fluking with a lot of shorts and enough keepers to send everyone home happy. Carl reminded that he will continue on half day fluke trips through the weekend and then switch over to ocean wreck fishing on Monday, September 17th. Porgies, sea bass and blackfish will be the target of these full day trips. The boat will sail 7AM daily.

Capt. Bob of the **Babylon** open boat **Miss Babylon** spoke of excellent fluking in the Staten Channel between the Babylon and Lindenhurst Cut. He has found that keepers predominate in this area and has had high hooks with as many as 40 keepers in recent days. On Saturday, seven members of the Vespoli family put away 140 keeper fluke. New sailing time for the boat is



Angler Jack Messina (left) and Capt. "Sig" Signorelli pose with Jack's 84 lb. white marlin, caught aboard the Seaford based charter boat, "3-Sea-Sons."

8AM daily.

Over at **Augie's Tackle Shop** Capt. Bill Stramezzi reported a few yellowfin tuna at the Tower but a generally disappointing weekend offshore. The charter boat **Cindy Ann** did troll 8 albacore and 6 yellowfins on Sunday after finding a pocket of 70 degree water. Plenty of blues were trolled and jigged east of the inlet in 40-80 feet of water. Inside the bay fluke remain plentiful from West Island to the Inlet but there are lots of shorts. At the docks, snappers are excellent.

Capt. Fritz Muller of the **Babylon** charter boat **Ida Jean** called to report a very good day fluking in the State Channel on Thursday. The anglers were a group headed by Harry Merfield.

Vinnie Lang worked south of Cherry Grove Friday night with bunker chum and mackerel chunks and put away 29 blues in the 10-15 pound class. This via Mike Andreani of **Lindenhurst Bait and Tackle**. Mike also told of plenty of blackfish at the Kismet Reef, Sore Thumb and Robert Moses Bridge. A good number of sea bass to 2 pounds being taken in the bay as well. Flounder are in the Sore Thumb pocket and a few fluke to 5 pounds are at the Inlet but must be culled from loads of shorts. Snappers are all over the place.

Ralph Angelillo of **Z Crab Tackle** in **Copiague** reported a big catch of blackfish from Kismet Reef for Jim Braun on Sunday. Ray Joyce had a 5 pound fluke while fishing with Jim. Another boat cashing in on the good blackfishing this weekend was the **Four Queens**. Weakfish appear to have settled back into the Wreck



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TOMORROW'S CATCH**

Buoy area with Al Speehr taking four from 4-7 pounds on red jellyworms Sunday. Live snappers and blackfish are accounting for bigger fish in the 10-13 pound range in the same area. Copiague Hole is still well supplies with small weaks which are being taken on a small Hopkins and sandworm combo. Plenty of porgies being taken near the WR Buoy and lots of small fluke still in the bay and at the Inlet. Nick Buglione filled the box with blues in the 5-10 pound range east of the Inlet on Sunday. He trolled umbrella rigs in 40-50 feet of water. First decent flounder catches at the Thumb now being made but still nothing on crabs. Ralph reminded that the upcoming Squaw Island Fishing Club Blackfish Roundup is open to everyone for a \$10 fee. Fish must be

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Over at **Bob's Bait and Tackle** in **Amity Harbor**, Bob Vitale told of continued good fluking from the Light to the C.G. Station. On Friday, youngster Joe Lang fishing aboard the **Miss Babylon** nailed 15 keepers to 3 pounds. Blackfish are settled at the Thumb, Kismet Reef and the R.M. Bridge with a few 6 and 7 pounders mixed with the smaller fish. Snappers continue very good and the blue claws finally making a showing.

Frank Pristera of **Edelman's** in **Farmingdale** reported that Bernie and Beverly aboard their **Beverly** A jigged a box of blues in the 4-11 pound range

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West End REPORT

with Stu Miller

Good fall mixed bag fishing is being had now. Fluke are mostly keepers now and bluefish are being very obliging on most trips, conditions permitting. Flounder are starting to swing while sea bass, blacks and porgies are filling out the fall anglers expectations in fine water. The offshore scene has been so so to fair with a few exceptions as will be noted further on.

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WEST END BAYS/ JONE'S INLET

Out of Seaford, the open boat Chincio III notes that flounder are off to an excellent start. On Tuesday's trip Tom Horton bagged 44 flounder plus sea bass and porgies while on Thursday Bill and Jim Setton scored with 96 flounder. The weekend trips saw very good catches with high hooks in the 40's both days. Pool flounder have gone up to 2 pounds 3 ounces. Worm is working best, followed by clam, both of which are being provided free on the boat.

From the charter boat 3 Sea Sons Captains Frank and Sig Signorelli advised that the tuna fishing has been excellent all week and should continue so for the next few weeks. Daily catches include tuna, bonita, albacore and dolphin. As in past years, marlin should be on the increase now. This weeks catches include nine tuna for Red Thompson and party and ten tuna plus some albacore for the Joe Snyder party. The Bob Lefkowitz group had 14 tuna plus some albies. The skipper says he still has a couple of open September dates. See ad for details.

The word from Captain Eddie's Fishing Station is of 96 blackfish

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taken by Ted Neaos under the 3rd Wantagh Bridge, blacks to 4 pounds. Ted also had two weakfish on worms, same place. Mr. Greaci, a regular customer, rang the bell with 33 keeper fluke which he took at Squaw Island on killes, spearking and smelt. Plenty of snappers all over the place said Artie and some BCC's off the Town Dock at the station. Some flounder showing at Four Corners, the Wantagh bridges and Massapequa Cove. Sea bass and porgies are also being caught on all the skiffs.

The word from **Wanser's Tackle Shop** has been that the best bet this week has been fluke from Haunts and Goose Creeks and Sloop Channel. Snappers galore. Flounder are now being caught in the deep holes around the Big M and the 3rd Wantagh Bridge. Weaks on live snappers and bluefish on bunker chunks or mackerel chunks at the bridges, especially when its quiet.

From Jimmy at **Nick's Fishing Station** in Merrick we learn of Merrick Point's production this week of fluke and snappers which has been very good while the areas of Broad Creek and Sloop Channel have been producing mixed bags of sea bass, flounder and some porgies. There are also lots of sea robins around, advised Jimmy.

As for the **Freeport** action we learn from the **Capt. Al** that he had a great week on bluefish most trips this week. Early in the week fishing from the inlet to Jones Tower saw great catches of 20 to 30 blues a man. Manny Rapaport of West Hempstead bagged up with 83. Saturday it was big choppers at Debs while on Sunday tons of blues from 1-6 pounds were taken from Reis Park to Playland. Each day 10-12 fluke are being taken also on the jigs. A 15 pound blue took the pool Sunday. Thursday's night trip had roughly 1200 blues swung over the rail. The moon effected Friday and Saturday nights fishing on the down side. Wednesday's catch was super and in one frantic 22 minute period 13 fares hoisted 112 blues. The fish being caught are good eating size said Al. There are lots of fluke around also.

From the **Starstream II** came word that Monday thru Friday's day fishing was very good from Jones Inlet to Jones Tower. Anywhere from 25 to 1 hour, 15 minutes from the dock for fish 2 to 8 pounds. Diamond jigs have been doing it during the day to the tune of 40-60 fish a man with some bonito mixed in. Monday thru Thursday night's fishing saw fair catches of bigger fish. Fishing took a slide with Friday night's moon and was picky Saturday also, according to Pete Kessinger.

The **Capt. Andy II** tells of very good flounder catches this week with pool fish going up to 2 pounds and also good mixed catches of porgies and sea bass along with the flatties. The boat has now switched to flounder on a two trip a day schedule.

A call from **Capt. Dan Pollera** of the charter boat **Nan-Sea** told of Satur-

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day's trip for Jared Fisher, Roslyn, with a slow pick on bonita and a small 23 pound dolphin plus some skipjack taken under some driftwood. The dolphin hit trolled squid strips SE of Jones in 170' of water. Sunday's trip in the same area provided a mixed bag for Ken Leung of albies, skippies and YFT. Red and yellow, and yellow and green feathers did the trick.

From the **Freeport Boatmen's Association** we learn that the **Super Spray II** continued to hammer the night blues most nights this past week, conditions permitting. The boat now has switched to a 7AM daily bottom fishing schedule for sea bass, porgies and blacks. The Association's charter fleet has been getting very good fluke catches with many more keepers now. Big blues are being chummed at Cholera but greater numbers are being jigged along the beaches to the east and west from 3 to 5 pounds. The charter fleet also found the bluefishing at night very good most nights.

We learn from **Lou's Fishing Station** at the mouth of Woodcleft Canal that while some of his customers boats had great bluefishing Friday, Saturday was off due to the moon. However, Sunday bounced back and saw solid catches of fluke and blues off Reis. Saturday was a bit slow at the Canyon but Sunday saw a bounce back as evidenced by Bob Poggi on his boat Line Sides. Bob and 3 youngsters aboard accounted for 6 Y.F.T.'s and 7 albies at the Texas Tower on feathers. Lou told of the 840 pound blue marlin weighed in at Hudson Point Fishing Station caught aboard the Four Queens. Flounder have been good at the Big M, Swift Creek and off the Short Beach C.G. Station and also at the mouth of Woodcleft Canal. Blanch Goodman fishing smelt and squid off Reis Park bagged a 5 pound 9 ounce fluke. Wrecks are holding loads of sea bass and blackfish with the bass up to 3½ pounds.

A call from the **Capt. Lou Fleet** advised that aboard the full day boat the floundering has been super all week with high hooks into the 50's and over. On Thursday, Charles Hector had 76 while on Saturday Don and Murial Baglieve shared 115 good flatties. Aboard the ½ day boat, the floundering has been very good too. Friday saw Paul Wethero with 80 flounder. Saturday's AM trip saw 85 flounder for Mr. Ross and on Sunday Gene Wolfie had approximately 50 in his bag. Saturday in the afternoon it was roughly 50 good flounder also for Howie Madison.

A message from the **Miss Freeport II** left on our answering machine advised that the day program has now switched to flounder. The night bluefishing continues as is.

We hear from Capt. Sy Karlin of the **Blue Fin Fleet** that his bluefish charters have been having excellent catches with fish up to 17½ pounds, working along the beaches and also a short ride offshore. A few weakfish to

12 pounds are mixed in. Bluefish high hooks have been in the mid 30's with fish 2-5 pounds average. Some larger 10-15 pounders have been brought up and it's obvious that there are two distinct schools of blues in our area.

A call from Capt. Pat of the charter boat **Lady J III** told of Friday's trip for Breed, Abbott and Morgan of N.Y.C. having a good catch of blues in jigs between Jones Inlet and Jones Tower. Friday night's trip was a slow one for Coe Electric. Saturday nights bluefish trip was also slow due to the moon in all likelihood, for Bengi's Pub, Lynbrook. Saturday's day trip for the Bob Meehan group was also slow on the blues. Sunday's charter for Tap A Keg Fishing Club enjoyed some good diamond jigging for blues off Playland.

A call from the charter boat **Capt. Gary** told of Saturday's bluefish trip for Robinson and Co. off Rockaway Playland with some decent blues on diamonds. Ira Vantor took the pool on a 6 pounder and was also high hook. Saturday's night trip for Tom Vagalo and pals fished the buoy 4 area off Debs. Joe Rich took the pool with a 7 pounder and Rose Alaluse was high hook with 12 blues on bait. Sunday's trip for the Our Gang Fishing Club worked off Reis with Glen Torturella bagging the pool and high hook honors with 19 cocktail blues.

A call from the charter boat **Corsair** told of Saturday's trip for the Jack Fleisher party, chumming and baiting blues to 11 pounds with some sea bass thrown in, just SE of Jones. Sunday's bluefish catch for the Tony Polidaro group from the Bronx which loaded up on 3-5 pound blues SW of Debs on diamonds.

In nearby **Point Lookout** Capt. Dennis of the charter boat **Marie III** told of Thursday's trip for the Charles Smith Co. having super bluefishing from Gilgo to Jones Inlet in 40' of water on diamond jigs for 2-3 pound cocktail blues. Ten men averaged 40-50 fish a man. Saturday's trip saw anglers jigging from Playland to buoy 4 for small blues in the morning and bigger blues on the artificial reef in the afternoon running 3-15 pounds. Saturday night's trip was a very slow pick SW of the Pink Hotel on two pound fish. Sunday was an excursion on hard bottom featuring good catches of sea bass to 2½ pounds, porgies to a pound and a half and blacks to 2 pounds plus a few two pound fluke. Porgies predominated.

From Tom at **Scotty's Fishing Station** told of a possible IGFA record by Malcom Frazier fishing on Jim Wood's Jenny of a 62 pound longfin tuna taken on a Green Machine and 80 lb. test line at the Canyon Saturday. Ed Reinfleisher fished the area of the Virginia Wreck with Green Machines, Hex Heads and feathers and totaled 6 yellowfin tuna. Good numbers of 20 pound class bluefish were taken on the weekend in 60' of water at the R4 buoy. Dr. Mercuri bagged a 10 pound weak on a live blackfish Friday off the Pt. Lookout

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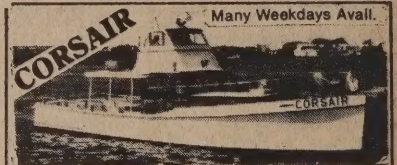
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Marilyn at **Ed's Fishing Station** told of lots of fish activity all this past week through Sunday. Eight members of the McRae party had nearly 300 blacks at the Big M on Sunday on fiddlers. Ben Peebles, Jim Cunningham and Tony Mable had 150 blackfish among them from 1-3 pounds on fiddlers. Fifty good flounder rewarded the efforts of Don Goodman, Bruce Lance and Angleo Terico, fishing Reynolds Channel. The trio also had 30 blackfish and an equal number of snappers along with a 4 pound weak on Sunday. Best fluking has been at buoy 15, Reynolds Meadowbrook Bridge and in the flats.

The **Capt. Bill** has switched over to flounder for his two trip a day schedule. The morning tides had been producing good fluking but due to customer request, Bill is now putting out the flounder signs.

The **Miss Point Lookout** began flounder fishing again Saturday morning with regular Andy Nelson bagging 30. Things tailed off in the afternoon but Sunday morning saw excellent catches once more with Marv Lipshonsky bagging 36 and Irving, a regular, putting away 40. Worms work best and Capt. Ron said it looks like a great flounder season. Sunday in the PM Peg Ross took the pool while Don Ross was high hook with 17 flounder. The boats night bluefishing will continue as long as people keep coming down.

From the **Commodore** out of **Island Park**, the skipper told of great fluking right through Sunday with the best yet to come. Clem fished the bay Monday through Friday, primarily the back of Baldwin and Hewlett and then fished the Ocean. Saturday and Sunday along the beach and at the Reef. There were a lot of big fish outside up to 6 pounds. Sunday's high hook was 22 keepers for Rich Reinhart. Catches for the week have been averaging 10-15 keepers a man and better. Some good flukers had 25 and 26 keepers. Lots of action. Clem said that all of September should be super. The crowds are light and the fish will bite. The boat will be sailing every day except Monday and Tuesday and the fluke have yet to move out from the back.

From **Beckmann's Tackle** in **Lynbrook**, Charlie advises trollers and jiggers are taking plenty of blues in 50' of water in the area of Ambrose and Playland. Fluking has been excellent on the black side of Ambrose and off Sandy Hook, Playland and Reis Park. Loads of YFT in the area of the Bacardi Wreck from 50 to 80 pounds. Snappers have been great and loads of blacks are being caught at the bridges and jetties. Some fast moving schools of bonito and albacore are around.

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Word from **Long Beach Sports Marina** is blues and weaks best in the Reynolds Channel area under the bunker schools all week. Hot catches of the week have been Jim Gentileseco with a 17 pound blue, Eric Haag with a 15 pounder, Kim O'Shea with a 13 pound weak. Steve and Mike Sowinski had an 8 and 9 pound weak. Very good blackfishing now at the ABB, Gong buoy and the 28 St. Wreck. The blackfish are numerous but small up to 2 pounds. Some flounder in Reynold's at buoy 7, Cedarhurst Yacht Club and Duck Point. Snappers OK and BCC's remain slow.

From Al at **Reynold's Reef Fishing**

Station we also learned of the 840 pound blue marlin taken aboard the Four Queens on a Hudson Canyon overnigher on the weekend. At sunset Saturday, Tony Siniscalchi of the Atlantic Beach Rod and Gun Club hooked and fought this brute for 1½ hours. The fish took a Schneider lure. This blue marlin was put on the scales at Reynold's Reef Fishing Station but busted them. The fish was then taken to Ronnie Bauer's Hudson Point Fishing Station where it tipped the scales there at a true 840 pounds. The boat also had 3 bigeye tuna, 5 YFT and 2 dolphin. Jay York socked it to a 170 pound bigeye. The ABB and

Silver Point jettty have been producing excellent blacks on fiddlers, fish from 1-2 pounds.

Capt. Ronnie Lepper of the charter boat **Kim**, just back from a successful week of commercial tuna fishing at Montauk has been having excellent bluefishing on 2-15 pound fish along with bonito and bass. All these bass have been under 24 inches, better known as throwbacks these days. Ronnie has been finding the bluefish and bonito action super hot from the Rockaways to the Jersey Highlands. Fish are being trolled and jigged.

NEW YORK BIGHT

The word from **Skippy's Bait and Tackle** says that big fluke are being caught at Reis Park and Playland and seem to be slowing inside. Lots of snappers around and loads of BCC's in the Hewlett Bay Flats for jackers. Flounder are showing in Swift Creek Jones Inlet and at the Big M. Blackfish also around the bridges and at the jetties. A 30 pound bass was taken on a live eel at the Meadowbrook Bridge and another 30 pounder on a live bunker this week. Big blues under the schools of bunker in the bay. Sea bass and porgies in Reynolds and at the bridges for worm soakers.

On Jamaica Bay, Vi at **Cross Bay Bait and Tackle** tells of great porgy catches being made off of both bridges on sandworms. Blacks are starting at both bridges on fiddlers and clam while the marine parkway bridge has been having good weak-fishing on bunker chunks in the early morning hours. Carl Nastrosimona took a 15 pound, 15 ounce blue on bunker off the South Channel Bridge. Snappers have been great on spearing and killies.

Out of **Sheepshead Bay**, skipper Al Coley on the **Betty W III** told of a fair catch of bluefish on Saturday due to the moon but a bounce back day Sunday with an excellent catch of 1-3 pounders off Debs. Al said that fishing was excellent all week, Monday thru Friday.

The **Elsie K III** advises that they have been having excellent fluking with a lot of 4-8 pound fish mixed into the catch. Skipper Tom Paladino said that he expects to get at least another few weeks of good fluke action.

From Wee Willie at **Mike's Tackle** we learned of Bill McGuire and his 7 pound ¾ ounce fluke taken aboard the **Pastime II** off the Coney Island flats on smelt and Barry Pilchik with an 11 pound fluke taken in Jamaica Bay. The Wee one also told of a 10 pounder caught on the America, and lots of tuna caught Sunday aboard the Tampa. Blackfishing has been a good item as well as sea bass and blues to 10 pounds are being caught by the Sheepshead Bay fleet across from the shop. Willie also advised that the Pilot II has been bringing back solid catches of porgies, sea bass and blacks.

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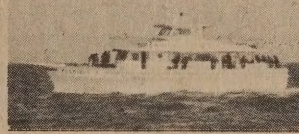
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THE Fisherman



North Shore REPORT

with Marty Garrell

Cooler weather seemed to bring out the best in late summer fishing with an assortment of species, particularly to the west.

WESTERN SOUND

Jacks Bait on City Island saw a lot of local fluke with 5-8 keepers per boat taken on squid and smelt combinations. There were a few porgies and blackfish in lively catches as well. Also on City Island, fishing aboard the **Apache** was "not too bad" according to skipper Dom Cerbone. Some larger porgies could be found off reefs and wrecks in deeper water from Center Island to Greenwich in 20-40 feet of water. Some 8-10 blackfish from 2-4 pounds were also making up part of the catch. Joe Ferrara of the **Sea King** was working on Sunday for medium sized porgies east of Lloyds. Fish in the middle of the Sound were bigger, but bergall interference south of Buoy 24C made the fishing tough. Good porgy fishermen who were able to cast away from the boat could manage up to 30 keeper scup per bag.

Phil Nasi at the **Glen Cove Sport Shop** said chunkers work the harbors for occasional blues to 15 pounds and gorillas to 20 pounds around Greenwich. A couple of 4 pound fluke came from the breakwater and one catch of 20 tautog to 6 pounds was reported along with a solitary 9 pound weakfish.

NORTH SHORE MID-ISLAND

George Valentine at **Four Winds** spoke of super bluefishing all week on 3-8 pound fish jigged from the 11B, OB, and 24C zones. Billy Collins of the **Ever Ready** was into the best of this fishing, and had some large fish aboard as well, including Howard Spillman's 19 pound gorilla, taken on Friday. Some of the jigging frat also had weakfish. Blues off Lloyds and in Centerport and Northport Harbors were feeding on bunker, and Billy Brennan managed an 11 pounder from Huntington Harbor. There was good porgy fishing off Marshall Field, Eatons, and Callahans and flukeing was still at its peak off the mouth of the Nissequogue. Flaties ranged up to 3 pounds with catches of 20 fish per boat not uncommon.

Tom Bowman at **Bowman's** in **Northport** mentioned a 13¾ pound slammer taken off Lilco on bunker and suggested using snappers for some of the 4-7 pound fluke around Can 13 and the coast Guard Station. Porgies were still available around the OB and Hobart Beach with a good concentration around the Northport Bau condos. Poppers produced 5-10 pound blues in the bay as well.

The **Caraffis Fishing Station** in **Port Jeff** enjoyed a "perfect Sunday" with billions of mixed sized porgies in the harbor. The larger fish can be found around the rocks in Old Field. Blues west of Buoy 11 range 1½ to 5 pounds with a few bigger fish taken from the beach. Fluking is good off White's Beach according to Sutler's but 40 percent of the flatties are throwbacks, and keepers are generally 15-16 inches. However, when you fish through the crabs, 10 keepers per person is possible. Local bass have been weighed to 18 pounds.

Ralph's Fishing Station in **Mount Sinai** saw mixed sizes of porgies in close with some in the 1 pound class along with a few fluke to 3 pounds.

NORTH FORK

Ed Kopack at **Warren's** in **Aquebogue** mentioned an encounter with an 11½ pound weakfish and 3-5 pound blues around Nassau Point on Saturday. Some blues in the 12 pound class were taken in the Sound by nighttime bunker chunker Nick Cyprus and one 11.6 weak was trolled on a surge tube from the Sound by brother Chris Cyprus.

Liz Caraffis at the **Mattituck Fishing Station** said that the weekend had been very good for porgies east of the inlet in 25-30 feet of water. Sizes were mixed with occasional scup to 2 pounds. One 6 pound weak plus a few tautog were in catches as well.

Ann Loria at **Captain Marty's** in **New Suffolk** spoke of a very good Saturday on porgies and weakfish. A catch of 25 summer weaks was mentioned off the radio tower, and local fluke fishermen continued to pick away at a group of flatties off Rose's Grove whenever winds, tides, and snappers permitted.

Ace Cottral at the **Port of Egypt Fishing Station** said that porgies could still be taken on both sides of Buoy 17 and off South Ferry. The Sound traps on the Point were producing fat pound flounder and blackfish have already started taking crabs around the Light at Orient. The Greenlawns were producing tautog from 4 pounds up when you found the right rock.

Art White at the **A.P. White Bait Shop** in **Greenport** has been doing quite a business on eels and bucktails for bass on this moon, but the biggest news is still bluefish in Pigeon Rip and the Race. Peter Kitsch, Jr. had an honest 10 pound tautog weighed in

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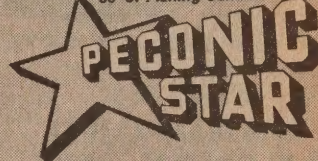


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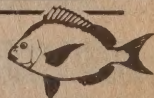
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from Plum Island aboard the *Lady K*. Richie Jensen of the *Nancy Ann* brought weary members of the "562" Fishing Club back early on Saturday with 300 blues from 3-8 pounds. Bare Keepers and short bass can be found with the blues in some areas.

Fluking bounced back after a few slow days early last week with the main bodies of fish still south of Plum and some fish in the Gull rip as well. Clark Bellows of the *Prime Time II* remarked that Friday and Sunday were quite good. The worst ratio of keepers to throwbacks was around 1.3 and this will be the last fluke week with a switch to tautog anticipated for the 16th.

Dave Brennan of the *Peconic Star* feels that the porgies in the deeper waters of the Sound may be somewhat fewer than those off Gardiner's, but that they are larger. There are quite a few blackfish mixed in with the porgies every day and a couple of dozen to 7 pounds is the norm. Nobody complains that the porgie boats aren't catching their share, and tautog are waiting in the wings as well.



Surf REPORT

with Fred Golofaro

Bluefish remain the stellar attraction for surfmen with steady action from South Shore and South Fork beaches the rule this past week. Weakfish look a bout ready to put in their usual September appearance and here and there a lucky surfman clicked with a trophy striper. North Shore reports remain especially sparse as the majority of casters set their sights on East End and South Shore beaches.

Parking Field 6, Jones Beach produced a flurry of bluefish and weakfish action on both Thursday and Friday mornings, according to Charlie Beckmann of *Beckmann's Tackle* in Lynbrook. Weaks in the 6-10 pound range fell for swimming plugs while tins accounted for most of the blues which ranged from 2-6 pounds. No word on the action here after Friday.

Scott Smyth of *Bob's Tackle* in Amity Harbor told of 2-5 pound blues in and out at West End Jones Beach. He also weighed a bass of 15.2 pounds for Joe Grasso. It was taken Wednesday PM at Robert Moses.

The same area produced a 41 pound, 2 ounce striper for Bill Gran-

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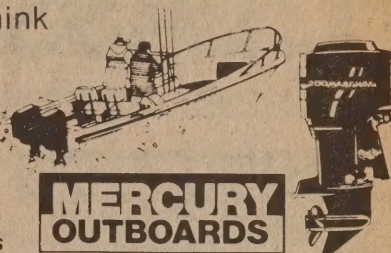


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baen, also on Wednesday night. Bill took his fish at Democrat Point where blues were on tap Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings providing casters with blitz-like action. Most were in the 2-3 pound range.

According to Paul Graniello of J & J Tackle in Patchogue, Moriches had more than its quota of blues this week. Tins and especially poppers took fish during the day on Friday. There was some lesser action on Saturday and Sunday mornings. The

east side of the inlet, Cupsogue Beach was loaded with fish on Sunday morning. In the bass department, Glenn Grothman and Hank Bittler checked in fish of 40 and 9 pounds taken from the area Wednesday night.

Thom Speckenback of Speck's Tackle Shop in Southampton said that bluefish blitzes with fish ranging from 3-12 pounds have been an every day affair. Poppers and tins are both effective and the fish seem to be spread along all of the South Fork.

Fish to 8 pounds raided Amagansett and Napeague beaches on Friday and Saturday evenings.

Montauk casters got in regular in nings with 2 to 8 pound blues last week and weekend. Some weaks in the 6-10 pound class showed from False Bar to the Light and into Brown's and just a few small bass under the light on the weekend. John Kronuch of Johnny's Tackle Shop who relayed this info managed an 11½ pound weak at False Bar Friday.

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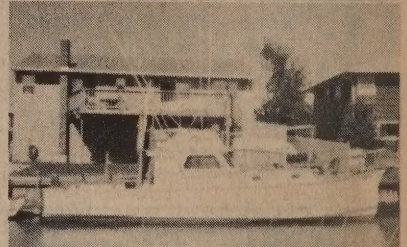
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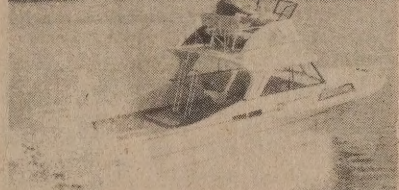
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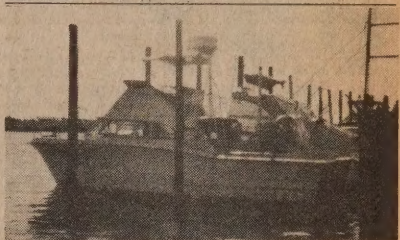
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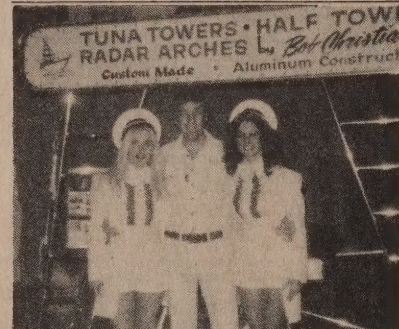
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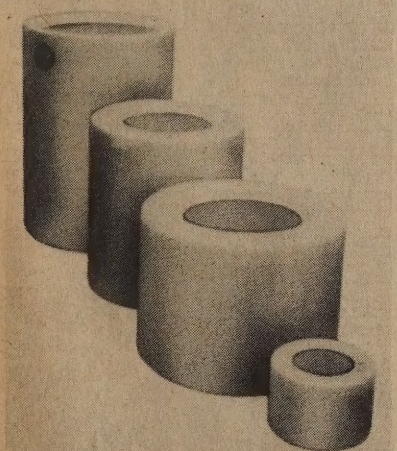
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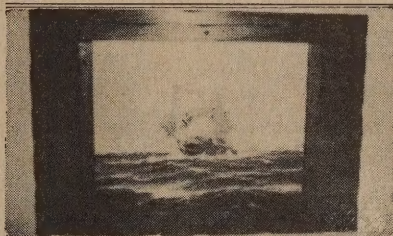
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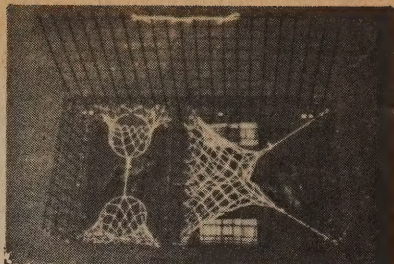
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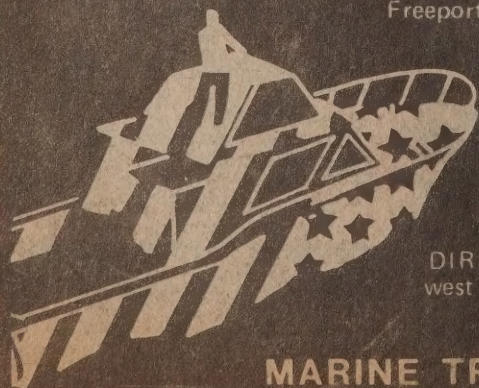


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